

JPRS 83257

13 April 1983

Latin America Report

No. 2665

FBIS FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE

NOTE

JPRS publications contain information primarily from foreign newspapers, periodicals and books, but also from news agency transmissions and broadcasts. Materials from foreign-language sources are translated; those from English-language sources are transcribed or reprinted, with the original phrasing and other characteristics retained.

Headlines, editorial reports, and material enclosed in brackets [] are supplied by JPRS. Processing indicators such as [Text] or [Excerpt] in the first line of each item, or following the last line of a brief, indicate how the original information was processed. Where no processing indicator is given, the information was summarized or extracted.

Unfamiliar names rendered phonetically or transliterated are enclosed in parentheses. Words or names preceded by a question mark and enclosed in parentheses were not clear in the original but have been supplied as appropriate in context. Other unattributed parenthetical notes within the body of an item originate with the source. Times within items are as given by source.

The contents of this publication in no way represent the policies, views or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

PROCUREMENT OF PUBLICATIONS

JPRS publications may be ordered from the National Technical Information Service, Springfield, Virginia 22161. In ordering, it is recommended that the JPRS number, title, date and author, if applicable, of publication be cited.

Current JPRS publications are announced in Government Reports Announcements issued semi-monthly by the National Technical Information Service, and are listed in the Monthly Catalog of U.S. Government Publications issued by the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402.

Correspondence pertaining to matters other than procurement may be addressed to Joint Publications Research Service, 1000 North Glebe Road, Arlington, Virginia 22201.

13 April 1983

LATIN AMERICA REPORT

No. 2665

CONTENTS

ENERGY ECONOMICS

BRAZIL

- PETROBRAS Initiates Program for Shale Treatment Process
(SEMAINE DE L'ENERGIE, 1 Feb 83) 1

COLOMBIA

- Reasons for Current Petroleum Crisis Cited
(Jose Suarez; EL ESPECTADOR, 14 Mar 83) 2
- Chivor II To Begin Operating at Full Capacity in July
(EL TIEMPO, 14 Mar 83) 4
- Construction of New Multipurpose Pipeline Begun
(EL ESPECTADOR, 14 Mar 83) 6

PERU

- Briefs
Japan Buys Oil 8

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

- Government Eyes \$50-Million Loss in 1983 Oil Revenues
(Jeff Hackett; TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 16 Mar 83) 9
- Texaco Warns of 'Drastic' Steps To Insure Survival
(Vashty Maharaj; TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 16 Mar 83) 11

COUNTRY SECTION

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Andean Reserve Fund: Andean Foreign Debt \$28.46 Billion (Jose Suarez; EL ESPECTADOR, 14 Mar 83)	13
Grenada's Bishop Re-affirms Support for Guyana in Border Dispute (Courtney Gibson; GUYANA CHRONICLE, 10 Mar 83)	17
Planning Minister Meets Brazilian Officials (Paris AFP, 24 Mar 83)	18
Briefs	
Dominican Leader in Trinidad	19
Caribbean Media Association	19
Resignation Over Interparty Row	20
Minister on U.S. Aid	20

ARGENTINA

Daily on Government Violation of Press Freedom (Editorial; LA NACION, 26 Mar 83)	21
Paper on UK Casualties During Falklands War (TELAM, 23 Mar 83)	23
Briefs	
Multiparty Group Document Released	27

BELIZE

'REPORTER' Editorial Sees PUP Infighting Aimed at Price (THE REPORTER, 6 Mar 83)	28
Briefs	
Illegal Honduran Fishing	30
Ties With Vatican	30
Banana Worker Layoffs	30

BOLIVIA

FRI Protests Aggression Against Nicaragua (EL DIARIO, 25 Mar 83)	31
Foreign Minister Denies Arms Race Involvement (La Paz Radio Illimani Network, 28 Mar 83)	32
Briefs	
Barragan to Tin Producers Meeting	33
Flooding, Drought Losses	33
Invitation to Yugoslavia's Zarkovic	33

Belgian Cooperation Program	34
Natural Gas Reserves	34
Mining Income	34
BRAZIL	
Uniqueness, Unpredictability of New Congress Viewed (Carlos Chagas; O ESTADO DE SAU PAULO, 27 Feb 83)	35
Figueiredo Submits Bill for Changes in Imbel Charter (O GLOBO, 18 Feb 83)	41
Unemployment Rises Significantly in Six Major Cities (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 1 Mar 83)	43
Rio Grande do Sul Firm Exports Technology to Africa (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 27 Feb 83)	44
PDS Legislators Feel Ignored by Government (O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO, 25 Mar 83)	45
Editorial Views Cuba as Regional Soviet Proxy (Editorial; JORNAL DO BRASIL, 26 Mar 83 p 10)	47
Paper Lauds Military Stance on Coup Anniversary (Editorial; LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST, 31 Mar 83)	48
Briefs	
Brizola Decrees Wage Readjustment	50
Foreign Minister on Antarctic Rights	50
CHILE	
Daily Describes Naval-Air Aviation Units (EL MERCURIO, 14 Mar 83)	51
Daily Laments Absence From Nonaligned Group (Editorial; EL MERCURIO, 23 Mar 83)	52
COLOMBIA	
Briefs	
Lopez Michelsen Relinquishes Liberal Leadership	54
Envoy to GDR	54
Ambassador to Portugal	54
Envoy to Uruguay, Aladi	54
Ambassadors Present Credentials	54
New Coast Guard Vessels	54
Ambassador to Poland	55
Ambassador to Guatemala	55

CUBA

Party Official Discusses Human Rights in Country (Fabio Raimundo Torrado; CUBA SOCIALISTA, Dec 82-Feb 83)	56
---	----

DOMINICA

Editorial Deplores National Workers Union 'Meddling' (Editorial; THE NEW CHRONICLE, 26 Feb 83)	77
'NEW CHRONICLE' Responds to Allegations by 'DRUM' (THE NEW CHRONICLE, 26 Feb 83)	78
USAID Pact for Banana Industry Accepted With Provisos (Peter Richards; TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 10 Mar 83)	81
Briefs	
Maritime Boundary Talks	82
France Assistance	82

EL SALVADOR

Briefs	
Episcopal Conference Directorate	83

GUATEMALA

Government Loans to Farmers Announced (PRENSA LIBRE, 24 Feb 83)	84
Briefs	
New Ambassador to Netherlands	85

GUYANA

Frank Campbell Interviews Jagan on National Crisis (SUNDAY GUARDIAN, TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 27 Feb, 1 Mar 83)	86
Briefs	
Call for Wheat Imports	95

JAMAICA

Text of Seaga's Speech to New Delhi Nonaligned Summit (THE SUNDAY GLEANER, 20 Mar 83)	96
--	----

Public Sector Workers, Government Stalled in Wage Talks (THE DAILY GLEANER, 17, 19 Mar 83)	102
Suspension of Negotiations Police Sick-Out	
Hoteliers Spotlight Deficiencies in Parallel Market System (Margaret Morris; THE DAILY GLEANER, 18 Mar 83)	104
Government Walking Tightrope Between Money Supply, Inflation (Mark Ricketts; THE SUNDAY GLEANER, 20 Mar 83)	106
Belgian Loan Finances JP'S Purchase of Transformers (THE DAILY GLEANER, 19 Mar 83)	108
House Approves \$56-Million Low-Cost Housing Program (THE DAILY GLEANER, 19 Mar 83)	109
Cane Farmers Object to Government-Planned Factory Closing (THE DAILY GLEANER, 17 Mar 83)	110
Briefs	
Hong Kong Business Ties	111
Water Crisis	111

MEXICO

Border 'Provocations' Tied to Guatemalan Antirebel Aims (Gonzalez Martinez Corbala; UNOMASUNO, 4, 5 Feb 83) ..	113
Expatriates Return Home From Cuba (Rogelio Hernandez L; EXCELSIOR, 9 Feb 83)	116

NICARAGUA

Achievements of Agrarian Reform Reporter (Emigdio Duarez; EL NUEVO DIARIO, 11 Feb 83)	118
Official Reports on Agricultural Meeting (EL NUEVO DIARIO, 15 Feb 83)	121
New Port To Be Built in El Bluff (BARRICADA, 20 Feb 83)	123
Educational Problems of Country Discussed (BARRICADA, 11, 14, 15 Feb 83)	125
Education Minister's Statement High Rate of Failure Education Budget Reported	

PANAMA

Political Leaders Discuss Paredes' 'National Unity' Government (Guillermo Cochez, et al; CADENA EXITOSA, 26 Mar 83)	129
--	-----

PERU

Former War Minister Defends Integrity, Arms Purchase (EXPRESO, 18 Mar 83)	141
Opposition Daily Views U.S. Latin American Policy (Editorial; LA REPUBLICA, 21 Mar 83)	144
Briefs	
Terrorists Die in Ayacucho	146
Navy Commissions New Submarine	146
Cooperation Agreements Signed	146

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Opposition Parties Step Up Antigovernment Campaign (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, various dates; SUNDAY GUARDIAN, 6 Mar 83)	147
ONR TV Broadcast	
Blast at Chambers Over Scandal	
Alliance Stand on Local Reforms	
Alliance Convention Speeches	
Alliance Olive Branch	
Alliance Local Government Candidates	
Tobago Leader: Revised Form of Union or Independence (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 4 Mar 83)	151
Caroni To Close Factories; Union Demands Diversification (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 11 Mar 83)	153
488 Firings, by Mikey Mahabir	
Diversification Plans	
Minister Continues Goodwill Visits to Local Jurisdictions (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 4 Mar 83)	155
Delegate to Nonaligned Summit Hits Industrialized Nations (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 17 Mar 83)	156
Union Loses Right To Represent Communications Workers (TRINIDAD GUARDIAN, 16 Mar 83)	157

Briefs	
BWIA Personnel Cutbacks	158

URUGUAY

Foreign Minister Comments on Relations With Venezuela (Montevideo El Espectador Network, 24 Mar 83)	159
Ambassador to Argentina Notes Importance of Group of 77 (Walter Ravenna Interview; Buenos Aires Domestic Service, 29 Mar 83)	161
CDU Leader Interviewed in Managua (Havana International Service, 22 Mar 83)	163

PETROBRAS INITIATES PROGRAM FOR SHALE TREATMENT PROCESS

Paris SEMAINE DE L'ENERGIE in French No 218, 1 Feb 83 p 12

[Text] PETROBRAS, the Brazilian national company, has launched a promotion program for an oil shale treatment process that it has developed and calls Petrosix. Discussions are underway with the engineering firm Stone and Webster to do a feasibility study to present the process to potential customers. Six American companies have declared their interest in the possibilities of applying this process to American shales: Conoco, Mobile Research and Development Corp, Phillips Petroleum, Pyramid Minerals, Rocky Mountain Energy and Sun Energy Development Co. PETROBRAS is currently planning with these companies to experiment with the process on a pilot unit with a capacity of 100 kg/h that can treat shales of any source. Discussions are also underway to license the process in the United States. There is also a project of American Syncrude Corp, presented to the American government for subsidy in the context of the Synthetic Fuels Corporation with a capacity of 5,000 b/day. Australian companies are also interested.

Brazil itself has considerable shale reserves (second in the world, after the United States). The largest field and also the most easily operable is that of Irati, which extends over 1,500 km in the state of Sao Paulo at the Uruguay border. Its reserves are estimated at 2,700 million barrels equivalent oil. A treatment unit has been built by PETROBRAS to test the Petrosix process on a semi-industrial scale. Located in Sao Mateus do Sul (State of Parana), this unit, which started operations in 1972, is the largest in the western world. It treats 2,000 t/day of shales and produces 800 barrels/day of oil and 17 t/day of sulfur. A project has been launched for the construction of an industrial complex that would be located beside the Sao Mateus do Sul prototype and would have an annual capacity of 1 million barrels of oil. The cost of this project is estimated at \$111 million and it should be pointed out that the cost per barrel produced in this way does not exceed \$30.

9969

CSO: 3319/3

REASONS FOR CURRENT PETROLEUM CRISIS CITED

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p 10-A

[Article by Jose Suarez: "New Oil Crisis Due to Arauca Loss"]

[Text] Experts in the field have estimated that Colombia is facing another critical situation in the oil industry which, over the medium term, will necessitate an increase in hydrocarbon imports, as a result of the loss of the Arauca deposits and the decline in production in Huila and other sections of the country.

This week, the firm Intercol, a branch of Exxon in Colombia, will most likely release a technical report on the future of the Arauca wells, the potential of which proved to be far lower than anticipated, and the marketing of which is not profitable.

Spokesmen for that company told EL ESPECTADOR that a response is being awaited from the Colombian Government, through ECOPETROL [Colombian Petroleum Enterprise], concerning the marketing proposal made by the firm in the course of the partnership contract.

Arauca, an Illusion

In May 1980, when the government and Intercol announced the discovery of sizable oil deposits in Arauca, located almost on the Venezuelan border, it was "blindly" thought that the luck of "black gold" had again knocked on Colombia's doors, and that the country would become self-sufficient again by the middle of this decade.

Three years later, after four wells have been dug at a record depth of 20,000 feet, and \$122 million invested, the reality is different at present:

Of reserves which at the time were reckoned at between 100 and 150 million barrels, it has been found that they amount to only 3.1 million; in other words, 2 percent of what had been estimated.

At the beginning, the experts calculated that the Arauca wells would produce as much as 30,000 barrels per day. Now, 3,000 or 4,000 barrels per day would hardly be accrued.

The commercial exploitation of this oil is not profitable, owing to the high prices of its extraction and the low production volume. The cost of drilling a well at 20,000 feet deep amounts to \$20 million, while it is normally \$4 million for those with depths of between 8,000 and 12,000 feet.

Spokesmen for Intercol, the Exxon branch in Colombia, stated that, at this depth, "the costs are tremendously high, and are amortized only when there are high prices."

Nevertheless, Intercol submitted a marketing proposal to the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise (ECOPETROL), in connection with the respective partnership contract, and is awaiting the pertinent response. The latter would be negative, if one considers the statement made by the minister of mines, Carlos Martinez Simahan, who remarked last Thursday that the marketing of this oil would not prove profitable, because the cost of a barrel extracted from Arauca would far exceed the international price levels.

This means that the Colombian Government has lost interest in the Arauca fields, which the minister of mines and energy himself described as "an illusion."

Exxon Insists

Nevertheless, representatives of Exxon in Colombia claimed that this company, through its branch, Intercol, will continue with the work in Arauca, on its own.

The spokesman commented: "We have made an extremely large investment, which we shall not allow to be totally lost. We shall attempt to recover something. Not everything has been lost, and we want the country to benefit from something."

The basis of the partnership contracts stems from the fact that the foreign company associated with ECOPETROL, in this case Exxon, runs all the investment risks during the phases preceding production. If the project turns out to be successful, the division of costs and responsibilities comes later. If it fails, the foreign company sustains the losses.

Exxon has invested nearly \$122 million in Arauca which, at an average rate of 60 pesos per dollar for the 6 years, would result in a figure exceeding 7 billion pesos.

The spokesmen for the North American company stated that what has happened to the Arauca fields "proves the uncertain nature of this industry, and of the exploration and drilling work, and attests to the great efforts made daily in search of a resource that is in increasingly short supply."

2909

CSO: 3348/278

CHIVOR II TO BEGIN OPERATING AT FULL CAPACITY IN JULY

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p 13-A

[Text] On the first of July of this year, the second phase of the Chivor Hydroelectric Powerplant, which generates 500,000 kilowatts of power during the hours of greatest consumption, is due to start operating at full capacity.

This announcement was made to EL TIEMPO yesterday by the manager of Ingetec, Carlos Sebastian Ospina Delgado. This company is responsible for preparing the design studies for the construction work on the hydroelectric powerplant's tunnels, and will subsequently take over the supervisory function for it.

In a first response to reports from EL TIEMPO regarding the origin of the failures that Chivor II has suffered, Ingetec reaffirmed the claim that the cracks in the tunnel walls of the second phase were impossible to detect during the construction, and in this connection issued the following official statement through its manager, Dr Ospina Delgado:

"The Chivor Hydroelectric Powerplant has an installed capacity of 1,000 MW, the largest in the country, with a dam 237 meters high, and making use of a fall of 800 meters. Its cost is \$500 million. Through two tunnel conduits, the reservoir feeds individual powerhouses, each having four 125,000 KW generators. The first phase, with 500,000 KW, has been in service since 1977. The second one went into operation in January 1982. Service was halted in the second phase during August 1982, when a landslide occurred over the settlement of Santa Maria.

"The Chivor II Powerplant stopped on 16 August. A very complete inspection was made of the upper conduit, and it was found to be in good condition, except for one 20-meter section at the lower end and at window 2, which is the external access for construction at that end.

"By mutual agreement with ISA [Electric Interconnection, Inc], and based on the normal procedure for foreign consulting, five international experts were brought in, who confirmed the good condition of the conduit, and proposed some work on the aforementioned 20 meters; in other words, at the bend and at window 2. They also proposed that the powerplant be immediately put into service, with certain precautions. After analyzing the situation in detail with the five consultants, ISA and Ingetec reached the conclusion that it would be better not to put the powerplant into operation, but rather to immediately carry out the proposed program. This program consisted of cement injections at high pressure around the bend and window.

"At the beinning of January 1983, the consultants came again to inspect the progress of the work. By that time, completely unforeseeable defects had been found in the rock, which had not been discovered in either the previous studies or the construction of the Chivor I and Chivor II tunnels. With this additional information, the consultants agreed that a variation should be made in the program, noting that 100 meters of steel shielding should be installed at the bend, and the injection work should be simplified.

"This work is being done, and should be finished by June 1983. The powerplant should be in service by 1 July 1983, with its 500,000 KW capacity.

"The harm inflicted on the country by the delay in putting the Chivor II Powerplant into service is obvious, but this type of problem often crops up in projects of this size. Both ISA and Engetec have spared no effort to hasten the repair work to the maximum extent, and have had the cooperation of the contractors, Impregilo, ATB and Schrader Camargo which have at all times adapted their programs to give priority to the work on Chivor II."

2909
3348/278

CONSTRUCTION OF NEW MULTIPURPOSE PIPELINE BEGUN

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p 10-A

[Text] Mariquita, 13 March--A few days ago, one of the most important projects in Colombia was started in this town, when construction began on the multipurpose pipeline that will start from the site of Las Gaviotas, in Mariquita, crossing Gualanday until it reaches the town of Neiva.

It was at Las Gaviotas precisely that a meeting was held with the engineers in charge of this major project, Rudolf Westerhoven, Horacio Mazeti and Fernando Menconi. When Mazeti was queried by EL ESPECTADOR regarding the project, he said: "The project consists of the construction of a multipurpose pipeline that is 120 kilometers long in its first section, from Mariquita to Gualanday; and thereafter, as far as Neiva, it will continue with a smaller diameter of 4 inches (10 centimeters), and a length of 160 kilometers. The time scheduled for the project is 301 days, which started on Thursday, 10 March. The work is the responsibility of the consortium consisting of Royal Boskalis Westminster, of Holland, Pamar, Inc., of Argentina, and Condisa, of Colombia.

[Question] What is the importance of this project?

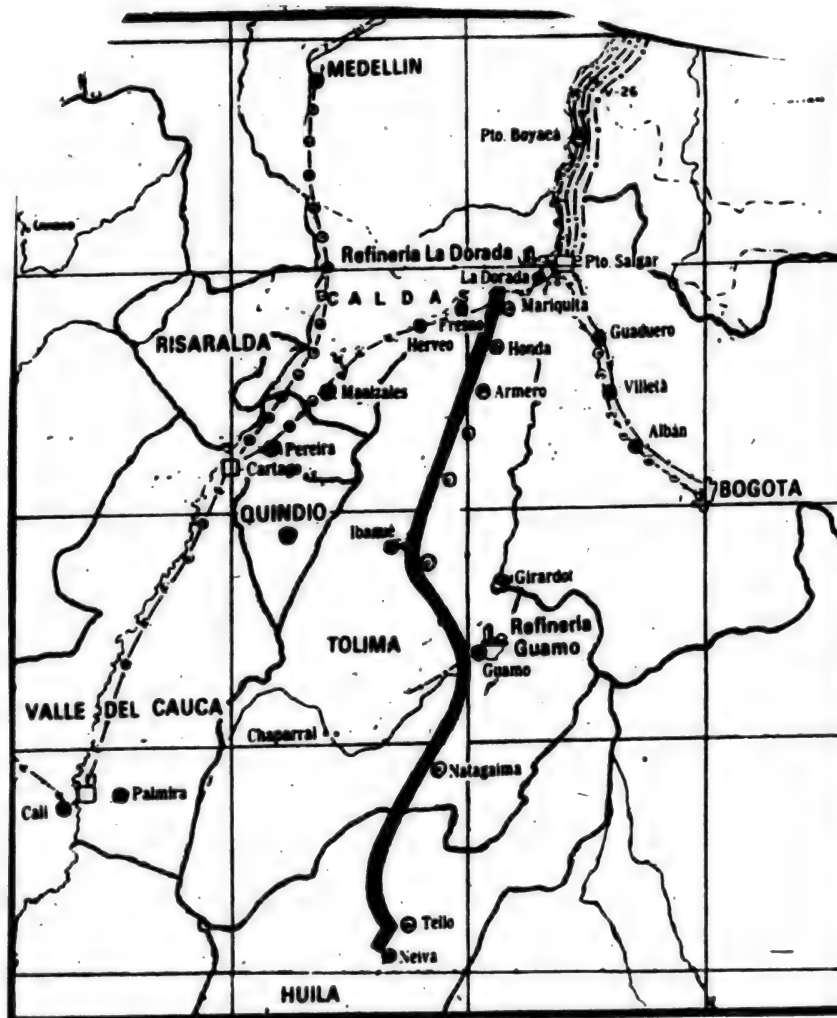
[Answer] It will generate employment in the municipalities that it crosses. Investments will be made for the construction of the multipurpose pipeline, as well as for the purchase of labor. This means that about 200 persons will be employed, and as the work progresses, that number will increase to 320.

[Question] What similar projects have you carried out in other countries?

[Answer] A project in Argentina, wherein 2,100 kilometers of pipework were installed, 1,100 kilometers of which were 4 inches in diameter, and the rest 24 and 18. It is one of the most important projects ever executed in that country.

Gas, ACPM, Gasoline and Other Products

The conduit will carry crude, ACPM, gasoline, gas and other by-products of petroleum. On the Las Gaviotas site, a meeting was held of the consortium's board members amid bulldozers and other special equipment. It was also attended by the mayor of Mariquita, Salomon Fonseca, and the vice president of the municipal council, Manuel Aldana.



On the map one observes the area of influence of the multipurpose pipeline between Mariquita and Neiva.

2909

CSO: 3348/278

ENERGY ECONOMICS

PERU

BRIEFS

JAPAN BUYS OIL--Peru has negotiated the sale of 600,000 barrels of crude oil to Japan at \$26.31 per barrel. [Text] [PY301429 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Mar 83 p A-1]

CSO: 3348/289

GOVERNMENT EYES \$50-MILLION LOSS IN 1983 OIL REVENUES

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by Jeff Hackett]

[Text] Government could lose as much as \$500 million in oil revenue this year because of the unprecedented decision on Monday by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to slash the benchmark of crude by \$5 (US) a barrel—a 15 per cent reduction.

Government officials could not compute the exact revenue shortfall but they and oil observers believe that it could possible be between 15 per cent and 25 per cent.

This would make it around \$500 million.

And this figure could be considered conservative since Government experts expect another round of price cutting this year with the price settling down from \$29 (US) to around \$27 (US).

Amoco Trinidad Oil Company, the country's biggest producer of crude and also the biggest tax-payer, receives \$35 (US) for its high quality crude—one dollar more than Saudi Arabia is paid for its Arabian light.

Revenue from oil this year has been projected at \$2.6 billion which is roughly \$310 million less than what Government collected last year and almost \$1 billion less than the 1981 tax take.

Oil production has been declining over the past few years; in 1980 the country produced 77.6 million barrels, in 1981, 69.1 million barrels and last year 64.6 million barrels.

Amoco's production has also been on the slide—in 1981 it was 37.76 million barrels and last year it was 33.98 million and this year, according to the company, will dip further by 19 per cent.

In fact, last year the average daily production was 93,000 barrels with the daily production for December being 85,000 barrels.

Currently, daily production is roughly 83,000 barrels and this is expected to drop to 78,000 barrels.

This contrasts with the company's peak production five years ago of 140,000 barrels daily.

Amoco has moved to arrest this disturbing trend, caused primarily by the depletion of its wells, appointing a task force of 20 geologists, engineers and economists last November to look at all the company's fields to see how the decline can be arrested.

The Task Force, which is being assisted by a number of other Amoco personnel, is expected to hand in a preliminary report shortly and a full report by May.

Apart from Amoco, Texaco and Trinidad Tesoro also show production drops while Trintoc and Trinmar show minimal increases.

Oil accounts for 60 per cent of Government revenue and 90 per cent of foreign exchange.

The historic price cut by the OPEC Council of Ministers meeting in London in response to price slashing by the North Sea oil producers and Nigeria (which is also a member of the 13-member oil club) was the first time the group has done so since it quadrupled oil prices in October 1973.

The new prices may be retro-active to customers with long term contracts from February 1.

It could not be ascertained whether this would also apply to local oil producers.

CSO: 3298/457

TEXACO WARNS OF 'DRASTIC' STEPS TO INSURE SURVIVAL

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by Vashty Maharaj]

[Text] Texaco Trinidad Incorporated (Textrin) has warned that further drastic measures will have to be taken to ensure the viability of the company in this country.

This was given by Texaco's Assistant General Manager, Mr. A. C. Nunes, speaking at the signing of the third collective agreement for monthly paid workers of the Beaumont Hill Centre, Pointe-a-Pierre, yesterday afternoon.

He also called on the Oilfields Workers Trade Union to work together with the company and to help the employers in weathering the economic storm.

The Assistant General Manager said the agreement was being signed "against a background that will surely test the resilience of our long-standing relationship."

He said it was the first time in the joint history of Textrin that they have been so seriously affected by the combination of a disadvantageous tax regime, world wide economic recession, and most recently, a sharp drop in crude prices.

Because of this, he said, "not only have our operations been significantly cut back, but a most urgent consideration is being given to further reducing fixed costs, including the rationalisation of our work force."

He said that during the new agreement the preservation of the company as a viable enterprise would be the first on their list of priorities and they hoped that, as the union representing the majority of the employees, the OWTU would share in this concern for the continued viability of the company.

"We will have more than ever before," he said, "to work together to develop strategies to ameliorate the effects of some of the hard economic decisions that will have to be taken in these times."

Proposal Rejected

Earlier this year the company gave notice that it was determined to reduce its 6,800-strong labour force. The company told its employees that if no agreement was reached on the proposal dealing with the reduction of the retirement age from 65 to 60 years, then the company would have to resort to the use of retrenchment and redundancy.

The retirement proposal has been roundly rejected by the union, but both the union and the company have studied proposals on the matter made by the Minister of Labour and are said to be willing to meet with him.

The Assistant General Manager congratulated the negotiating teams for a job well done and offered his appreciation to the Ministry of Labour for the part it played.

CSO: 3298/457

ANDEAN RESERVE FUND: ANDEAN FOREIGN DEBT \$28.46 BILLION

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p 14-A

[Article by Jose Suarez]

[Text] The Andean Reserve Fund has revealed that the external public debt of the countries of this subregion amounts to \$28.46 billion and that it is attempting to help resolve the problem faced by the Andean nations, despite its limited financial capacities.

To deal with this total external debt, the fund has \$402 million, consisting of the capital contributions made by the member countries which total \$296 million and funds obtained from the international capital market which total \$105.6 million.

Up to the present the subregional organization has extended credits of \$157 million to Bolivia and Ecuador and is willing to undertake another operation on behalf of the Latin American nations to deal with their huge external debts. Raul Salazar Olivares, president of the fund, said that the situation within the Andean group of countries is particularly delicate for all of the member states, with the exception of Colombia, which has "an extremely modest-sized external debt."

He considered that a substantial part of the problem lies in the bad structure of the debt in almost all the countries affected. This phenomenon reflects the fact that the manner in which long-term credits are obtained has changed external debt policies in Latin America. According to figures from international organizations like the World Bank and the SELA [Latin American Economic System], the total external debt in Latin America amounts to about \$300 billion and is the principal cause of the difficulties facing countries like Brazil, Mexico, Argentina, Venezuela, Ecuador, and Bolivia, among others.

The president of the FAR [Andean Reserve Fund] noted that this crisis is getting worse to the extent that the international capital markets are closing down for all the countries of Latin America and, logically, for the countries of the Andean group. It is for that reason that Venezuela has not been able to find a solution. Similarly, a country like Colombia, which should not have any difficulty in finding credit anywhere in the world, is suffering from the same situation, he added.

Renegotiation

Salazar Olivares initially referred to the theme of external debt in Latin America and its possibly simultaneous renegotiation. He stated that "external debts are the result of disequilibria which have developed in the balances of payments caused by petroleum."

He also stated that this problem is the result of incurring deficits in the balance of payments on current account for long periods of time, a situation which benefited only the developed countries. That situation coincided with the expanded controls imposed in the rich countries on demand for products from the underdeveloped countries, all of which increased and created the negative effects that are being felt today. He said: "Now we are in the worst phase of the crisis," but he was confident that the efforts being made to overcome those obstacles would lead to an improved situation.

Speaking specifically about simultaneous renegotiation of debts, he said that each country needs certain, specific arrangements, since some are more advanced than others in the search for a solution. In his view, "It is very difficult" to see an overall agreement being achieved. However, he thought that, through institutions like the IMF [International Monetary Fund], it would be possible to develop a common front which would facilitate action benefiting all concerned.

Salazar Olivares insisted that: "The situations are different, due to the wide range of problems," although he recognized that some countries have already made substantial progress toward a solution of their debt problems.

Andean Crisis

The impact of the external debt problems in the countries belonging to the Andean group was analyzed in the following terms by the president of the FAR, who is a Peruvian and who has just taken over this office, replacing Fernando Gaviria Cadavid, the former Colombian cabinet minister.

Within the subregion the impact of the world financial crisis may be summarized in two concrete cases. Colombia appears in the first place as an exception, with an extremely modest external debt and reflecting behavior which shows favorably when compared with the rest of the countries of the subregion.

In the second case there are two extreme cases, those of Bolivia and Ecuador, which have very high external debts.

Their external debts are as follows, according to available figures from the Andean Reserve Fund:

Ecuador: \$4.68 billion; Bolivia, \$2.52 billion; Colombia, \$5.52 billion; Peru, \$6.84 billion; and Venezuela, \$8.9 billion.

The debt problem in these countries has two aspects: (1) the total amount, and (2) the debt structure. In the view of the president of the FAR, with

the exception of Colombia the other countries have serious problems in terms of their debt structure. That defective structure is principally the result of the fact that the tactic of obtaining long-term credits was changed into a tactic of obtaining short-term commercial credits because of the problems related to the increase in petroleum prices.

The extraordinary figure which Latin American external debt has now attained is creating additional problems: the drying up of the international capital market for all of the countries of the region. He said: "It is for this reason that Venezuela has not been able to overcome its problems, despite the efforts which it has made. The same thing is happening to Peru, which has been working with the International Monetary Fund for 2 years."

Salazar Olivares added: "The market is closing for all countries and particularly for the Andean countries. That is the situation for Colombia, which should not have problems of this kind but which are presently occurring, as we have seen recently."

In his view the FAR can guarantee external credits contracted by the nations of the subregion, but not with the IMF, the World Bank, or similar organizations.

Help

How could the Andean Reserve Fund help the countries of the subregion at this time of crisis?

The president of the FAR declared that the Andean organization has a credit outstanding with Bolivia of \$52 million and another credit with Ecuador of \$105 million. (The FAR is reportedly close to making another loan of \$250 million to Ecuador.)

At the same time a rearrangement of the term of the existing credits is under study, as a consequence of the reforms made in the statutes of the FAR in this connection.

The Andean leader admits that the needs of the member countries "are larger than our resources" and that situations are being dealt with at the outer limits of the powers of the fund. That limited capacity reflects the fact that the FAR is a new organization. He is confident that the present crisis may serve in the future to encourage the Andean countries to strengthen this organization, whose capital should at least grow in constant dollar terms.

He noted that the worsening situation in the foreign capital market also affects the FAR. Although access to the foreign capital market has not been completely closed off, it is increasingly difficult for the fund to obtain resources in that market, and the rates of interest are increasing despite the fact that it enjoys privileged treatment, compared to a country acting on its own.

Salazar Bolívares frankly said that the Venezuelan problem is of such magnitude that "its external debt exceeds all of the resources of the FAR." For that reason he does not think that Venezuela will seek help from the FAR. He further explained that the resources of the FAR, compared to those available to Venezuela, are insignificant, but that the FAR will have a decisive involvement in the case of Ecuador and Bolivia.

FAR Policies

Salazar Olivares explained that the fund only makes loans to the central banks of the five Andean countries to resolve liquidity problems in their balance of payments. With these resources the country benefiting from them could even pay interest on its external debt or finance imports.

He said: "Without help from the fund, some of these countries would have to have made overly sharp adjustments in their economies."

The FAR loans money from its own resources or from resources obtained on the international capital market. Loans from FAR resources have a rate of interest generally like the LIBOR [London Inter-Bank Offering Rate] 3-month rate. Loans using money borrowed on the international capital market reflects the cost plus a small commission.

The organization provides middle term credits (of 4 years, with 1 year free of interest and repayment of principal) and short-term credits repayable in 6 months.

Capital subscribed to the FAR amounts to \$320 million, divided as follows: \$80 million contributed by Colombia, Venezuela, and Peru and \$40 million contributed by Bolivia and Ecuador.

Out of this sum the paid-in capital at the moment amounts to \$296 million, of which Colombia, Venezuela, and Peru have contributed \$79.1 million; Bolivia, \$23.6 million; and Ecuador, \$34.8 million. The difference between the last two countries is due to the fact that Ecuador has paid in its capital in advance of the schedule.

The total resources obtained by the FAR on the international capital market amount to \$105.6 million.

Salazar Olivares stated, in giving these figures, that consolidated credit operations with Bolivia and Ecuador have resulted in no problems in meeting obligations.

Finally, the president of the FAR expressed optimism in the future of sub-regional integration, despite the difficulties it has encountered for a number of years. He said: "We should look to our own resources in the face of the external problems which surround us."

5170

CSO: 3348/279

GRENADA'S BISHOP RE-AFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR GUYANA IN BORDER DISPUTE

Georgetown GUYANA CHRONICLE in English 10 Mar 83 p 8

[Article by Courtney Gibson]

[Excerpt] New Delhi—Grenada's Prime Minister Maurice Bishop has twice within the last 24 hours publicly re-affirmed his country's full support for Guyana in its territorial controversy with Venezuela.

Addressing the plenary session of the Non-Aligned Movement here Tuesday night, Bishop said that Grenada has always added its voice to those who call for peaceful settlement of the Guyana-Venezuela territorial issue--always "with the clear understanding that the territorial integrity of Guyana will be fully maintained."

Fielding questions at a Press conference he hosted here yesterday, he told journalists that his government has long ago given its "full support" to Guyana on the question of its territorial integrity.

"We believe that the 1899 Arbitral Award was a valid award. We believe it was legally made and, therefore, in our view, the question of a territorial claim being made against Guyanese territory does not really arise," he told the Press conference.

He noted that the Geneva Agreement of 1966 outlined "a certain procedure," which is now being followed and pointed out that "the primary concern of Grenada at this time is that the matter be settled by peaceful means and that the Guyanese have the opportunity of presenting their case in full."

"We continue to believe that the Guyanese are entitled to all of their territory," he said.

CSO: 3298/458

PLANNING MINISTER MEETS BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS

PY252323 Paris AFP in Spanish 2238 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Brasilia, 24 Mar (AFP)—Bolivian Planning Minister Arturo Nunez Del Prado said in Brasilia today that the difficulties which the Bolivian Government is facing in trying to obtain U.S. credits are linked to discussions on the preparations of an overall plan of crop substitution for coca.

The minister said in a press conference that the presence of communist ministers in the government is a secondary concern in the matter of credits.

The minister, who is on a special mission in Brasilia to start a dialogue different from that of the past, said that Bolivia wants pragmatic cooperation.

He said that binational projects with the probable participation of foreign capital can be easily found in the areas of agriculture, agricultural food industry, energy and transport.

Nunez Del Prado met with several ministers in Brasilia. He said that the results of his visit was satisfactory and that mixed commissions are working to identify common projects.

Regarding the preparation of an agreement for the purchase of Bolivian gas by Brazil, the minister said that this depends on the evaluation of Bolivian gas reserves, which will be known next August.

The negotiations between the two countries also include the construction of a 1,950 km gas pipeline from Santa Cruz to Sao Paulo, a project which would be mainly financed by the World Bank.

CSO: 3348/297

BRIEFS

DOMINICAN LEADER IN TRINIDAD—Prime Minister of Dominica, Miss Eugenia Charles, paid a whirlwind visit to Trinidad yesterday. Miss Charles, who was leading a Dominican delegation which held discussions on several matters, flew back home yesterday afternoon. She left behind other members of the delegation who will continue the talks on a number of issues relative to Dominica and Trinidad and Tobago, mainly bilateral issues such as trade. According to an informed source, the discussions dealt with the status of projects the Dominican Government initiated based on a \$12 million loan from the Government of Trinidad and Tobago under the Caribbean Aid Project. The source, who said the visit was at the initiative of the Dominican Government, added: "It is pleasing to know that at least one government saw it fit to keep us informed as to the position of projects financed by funds obtained on the basis of loans. "This cannot be anything but very good for the spirit of Caricom." Miss Charles, and her team, in their tight itinerary, met a ministerial team at the Riverside Plaza, which was chaired by National Security Minister John Donaldson. Others included Industry and Commerce Minister Desmond Cartey; Minister in the Ministry of Finance Anthony Jacelon; Ambassador-Designate to the Eastern Caribbean States, Basil Pitt; Lennox Ballah, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs and Val Patino of the Ministry of Finance and Development. A joint venture relating to a timber project was also discussed. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Mar 83 p 1]

CARIBBEAN MEDIA ASSOCIATION—Bridgetown, Barbados, March 13 (CANA)—Editor-in-Chief of the NATION newspaper of Barbados, Harold Hoyte, was today elected President of the Caribbean Publishing and Broadcasting Association, replacing Oliver Clarke of the GLEANER newspaper in Jamaica. Following its annual general meeting here today, the CPBA said a new committee of management had been elected to serve for the coming year, with Mr. Hoyte, a Barbadian at the head. Mark Conyers of Trinidad and Tobago's GUARDIAN newspaper is Vice-President, Gary Duesbury of the Voice of Barbados and the Barbados Rediffusion Service Limited radio station is Secretary-Treasurer. Other members of the Committee are Mr. Clarke, Neville Grosvenor (Advocate News, Barbados), Lester Spaulding (Radio Jamaica and Rediffusion, Jamaica), Ken Francis (Nassau Guardian, Bahamas), Arnold Foote Jr. (Daily News, Jamaica) and Khristian Knaack (Radio Antilles, Montserrat). Mr. Hoyte is a former Secretary-Treasurer while Mr. Conyers and Mr. Grosvenor are former Presidents. Sitting on the Council for the first time are Messrs Foote, Francis and Knaack. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 83 p 20]

RESIGNATION OVER INTERPARTY ROW—St. John's, Wed., (Cana)--An Antigua and Barbuda parliamentarian, George Pigott, has said that the failure of the Opposition Progressive Labour Movement (PLM) and the Opposition-aligned Antigua Workers' Union (AWU) to resolve their differences, led to his late February resignation from the party. He told his St. John's City West Constituents that the decision-makers in the PLM were not convinced that it was in the interest of the party to maintain the bond with the AWU. He also charged, in an address, that the PLM's chances of again becoming the nucleus or catalyst of any mass movement in Antigua and Barbuda have disappeared. AWU had formerly given moral support to the PLM, but relations between the two had turned sour. Moreover, the working class people had wanted him to resign from the PLM. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Mar 83 p 5]

MINISTER ON U.S. AID—St John's, Tues., (Cana)--A Senior Cabinet Minister here has called on the United States and other friendly countries to raise the level of development assistance to the Caribbean to help the governments combat the spread of communism in the region. Speaking at a public meeting in St John's, Antigua and Barbuda's Health Minister Christopher Omard, said he was surprised that the United States could be making as much as US \$110 million (TT \$264m) in military aid available to El Salvador while offering a lot less to economic development in individual Caribbean countries. The kind of money being made available to El Salvador was what Eastern Caribbean countries needed to give their economies a push, the Minister said. If small developing countries in the Eastern Caribbean are to combat communist infiltration and to develop their economies, Mr. Omard added, the level of foreign aid to the region would have to be raised significantly. He suggested that the United States take another look at its bilateral assistance to Antigua and Barbuda and other Eastern Caribbean countries in an effort to stimulate growth in their economies as a strategy against what he said was the communist cold war. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Mar 83 p 17]

CSO: 3298/459

DAILY ON GOVERNMENT VIOLATION OF PRESS FREEDOM

PY311501 Buenos Aires LA NACION in Spanish 26 Mar 83 p 8

[Editorial: "Press Freedom and 'Tolerance'"]

[Text] The confiscation of issue 328 of the magazine LA SEMANA, ordered in a decree issued by the executive branch, is proof of the government's disregard for the repeated condemnations prompted by prior violations of the freedom of press.

An official communique stated that the decision was adopted because the publication contained "inexact information about the armed forces." This shows that the executive branch insists on assuming responsibilities and functions it is by no means entitled to.

These arbitrary restrictions on the freedom of the press are being imposed with regrettable frequency. The closure of publishing houses and the confiscation of issues ordered simply through a decree, which is a rule that cannot annul express provisions of the constitution, is being used so frequently as a repressive instrument that repeatedly denouncing these actions as serious affronts might become a harmful habit.

The warrant for the arrest of the LA SEMANA director issued by the executive branch as a final touch to this episode is another sign of arbitrariness and of abuse of authority. Not only are the publications at stake, but now also the personal security of the persons responsible for the media and of journalists in general.

In view of similar events recently, the need has been reiterated for the government to submit to the court all those cases believed to involve crimes or acts affecting institutions or national security. Not only has this procedure been disregarded, but the executive branch has gone even further in deciding by itself to arrest or to try to make arrests--which is the same thing--with the intention of imposing sentences of unforeseeable length on those it believes responsible for acts of this nature. The statements about alleged links with "destabilizing" campaigns advocated by foreign governments appear at this time to lacking any foundation. In any case, even the minimum indication of veracity would strengthen the aforementioned position about the need to resort to the court exclusively.

Moreover, the declaration made by the president worsens the situation. In this regard, General Bignone said yesterday that "we admit and accept criticism." He added, however: "I believe we have shown the necessary tolerance." Therefore, it is made clear that freedom of the press and freedom for journalists seem to remain subject not to the laws and the constitution but to the "tolerance" of the executive branch within the framework of undefined limits, limits which oscillate between absolutely imprecise points. Therefore the concept of freedom of the press has been defined from a viewpoint which is the opposite of that advocated in these columns, that is, as a concession by the officials which can be denied at any time and not as an inalienable right.

CSO: 3348/298

PAPER ON UK CASUALTIES DURING FALKLANDS WAR

PY252053 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1655 GMT 23 Mar 83

[Text] Bahia Blanca, 23 Mar (TELAM)--During the war over the Malvinas Islands, the Argentine armed forces destroyed 37 British aircraft, sank 6 ships and put out of action another 7 ships of the British Navy.

This report was released by Jorge Felix Nunez Padin, military affairs analyst, in an extensive report published here today by the local newspaper LA NUEVA PROVINCIA. The report includes the data on each and every aircraft and warship of the British task force destroyed by the Argentines during the 74-day war in the South Atlantic last year.

Nunez Padin has been a contributor to the newspaper LA NUEVA PROVINCIA since the beginning of the war in April 1982. He is an expert in electronic matters and weapons systems. He is also in close contact with national and foreign circles closely linked to developments in strategy and weaponry.

In his report, the expert notes that this data is the result of an objective and concrete analysis of the war, and adds that of the 37 aircraft destroyed by the Argentine forces, 26 were helicopters and the remainder were sea harrier fighter-bombers.

He also says that as far as ships are concerned, the report also includes those that were so badly damaged they had to be taken to drydocks. He adds that it will be noted, perhaps, that the losses experienced by the aggressor--the British task force--are less than expected, but in honor of those who died fighting for Argentine principles, only the truth will be told.

The chronological table of events which includes the April-June 1982 period is as follows:

22 April: 2 Westland Wessex Hus [as received], serial numbers XT 464 and XT 473, of the Royal Navy were damaged while SAS [Special Air Squadron] men were landing on the South Georgia Islands.

23 April: 1 Westland Sea King HC4, serial number ZA-311 of the 846th squadron, was lost during a night mission. One crew member died.

4 May: 1 Sea Harrier FRS-1, serial number 450 of the Royal Navy 800th squadron, was downed by a 35 MM army battery while it was bombing Goose Green. The aircraft crashed on land and its pilot, Lt Nick Taylor, died. The same day the HMS D-88880 Sheffield was hit by an AM-38 Exocet missile fired by a super Etendard of the Argentine Navy. It finally sank on 10 May 1982. It has not been possible to confirm the report that the frigate HMS Rothesay was brushed slightly by a second Exocet missile but with no damage being caused.

6 May: 2 Sea Harriers FRS-1, serial numbers XZ-452 and XZ-453, collided in the air during a patrol operation killing both pilots: Lt Curtis and John Eayton Jones. Both aircraft belonged to the Royal Navy's 801st squadron.

12 May: 1 Sea King HA-5, serial number ZA-128 of the Royal Navy's 829th squadron fell into the sea. There were no casualties and it was later recovered.

The same day: A Sea King helicopter HAS-5, serial number ZA-132 of the Royal Navy's 826th squadron, crashed into the sea near the HMS Hermes. There were no casualties.

The same day: The HMS (D-88) Glasgow, sister ship of the Sheffield and the Coventry, was seriously damaged by a 4 B planes of the Argentine Air Force. It was so badly damaged that it was put out of action and had to be taken back to England for repairs. It arrived at Portsmouth on 19 June 1982.

17 May: 1 Sea King HC4 serial number ZA-290, of the Royal Navy's 846th squadron was destroyed by its crew members in Aguas Frias (Chile); it took off from the Hermes.

18 May: 1 Sea King HC4. No further details are known.

19 May: 1 Sea King C4, serial number Za-294, of the Royal Navy's 846th squadron collided during a night operation with a ship, presumably of the Intrepid class. This collision caused the death of 21 men.

21 May: The frigate HMS (F175) Ardent was sunk in San Carlos Strait after being attacked by a fleet of A4Q naval planes.

The same day: 1 Sea Linx HAS-2, serial number XZ-251 of the Royal Navy's 702d squadron, was destroyed aboard the frigate Ardent.

The same day: 1 Sea Linx HAS-2, serial number XZ-736 of the Royal Navy's 702d squadron, was machinegunned aboard the frigate Broadsword.

The same day: HMS (D18) Antrim, light cruiser, was hit several times including by a 250-KG bomb that hit the engine room but did not go off.

The same day: 1 Wessex HAS-3, serial number XP 142, of the Royal Navy's 737th squadron, was machinegunned aboard the cruiser Antrim.

The same day: 2 Gazelle helicopters, serial numbers XX-402 and XX-411, of the Royal Marine Brigade Air Squadron were shot down by light weapons fire during the landing in San Carlos. Three persons died. The Gazelle XX-142 was also seriously damaged in the same action.

The same day: 1 Harrier Gmrnk 3 of the RAF 3d squadron was shot down while bombing Puerto Haward by a blow-pipe missile fired by an army patrol. The pilot, Lt Jeff Glover, was wounded and captured. He was repatriated via Montevideo on 8 July 1982.

23 May: The UMS (F56) Argonaut, a frigate of the Leander-Exocet class, was badly damaged by the attack of [word indistinct] air force planes. It arrived at Devonport for repairs on 26 June 1982.

24 May: The frigate HMS (F170) Antelope was severely damage by several attacks of Argentine Sky Hawk and Dagger planes. Later in the evening, on trying to deactivate a bomb it went off causing an uncontrolled fire aboard. The ship sank on 25 May 1982.

The same day: 1 Sea Harrier FRS-1, serial number ZA-192, crashed on the deck of the Hermes during a night take off. Its pilot, Lt Gordon Batt, of the Royal Navy 899th squadron died in the explosion that followed.

The same day: The HMS (L 3027) Sir Lancelot was damaged several times in San Carlos Strait, and was hit by two 250-KG bombs that did not go off. It has been undergoing repairs at Devonport since 25 August 1982.

25 May: The HMS (D-118) Coventry was sank after an attack by air force planes. One zap [as received] Lynx HAS-2, serial number LAPXZ-242 of the Royal Navy 702d squadron, was destroyed abroad the destroyer Coventry, near Pebble Island.

The same day: The Cunard Lines Atlantic Conveyor was hit by an AM 39 Exocet missile fired by naval air super Extendard planes and sank. The following were destroyer aboard the Atlantic Conveyor: three Chinook HC-1 helicopters of the RAF 18th squadron (serial numbers ZA-706, 716 and 719) and six Wessex helicopters HU5 of the Royal Navy (serial number ZX 480, 499, 512 and XT 476, 483 and SX485), and the Sea Lynx HAS-2 serial number XZ 700, which landed aboard a few minutes earlier. Also, a large amount of spare parts for Harrier planes.

The same day: The HMS (F 83) Broadsword was hit several times by air fire power. It was also hit by a 250-KG bomb that did not go off. It entered Devonport for repairs on 23 July 1982.

27 May: A Harrier GRNK 3, serial number XA 930 of the RAF 3d squadron was shot down by the fire of 35 MM army batteries. Its pilot, Lt Bob Ivensson, ejected and was rescued by British forces.

28 May: A scout AH-1, serial number XT 629 of the Royal Marines was shot down on the battlefield of Goose Green by Lieutenant Simbaro aboard a Pucara plane. One British crew member was killed.

29 May: 1 Sea Harrier FRS-1, serial number ZA 174 of the Royal Navy 809th squadron, was damaged by the antiaircraft fire over Puerto Argentino. While heading for the invincible, the aircraft plunged into the sea. Its pilot, Lt Mike Broadwater ejected himself and was rescued safely.

30 May: 1 Harrier GRNK 3, serial number XZ 972 of the RAF 3d squadron was damaged by the antiaircraft fire. It tried to return to the aircraft carrier Hermes but fell into the sea also. Its pilot, Lt Jerry Pook, ejected and was also rescued.

The same day: The HMS (R 05) Invincible was damaged by the impact of an AM-39 Exocet missile and by an attack of A4C airplanes of the air force. It continued in operation.

1 June: 1 Sea Harrier FRS1, serial number XZ-456, was shot down by a Roland missile launched by an army battery. Its pilot, Lt Ean Mortimer, ejected into the sea and was later rescued.

5 June: A Gazelle AH 1 of the 656th squadron was lost on Gran Malvina Island. No further details are known.

8 June: The frigate HMS (F 126) Plymouth was severely damaged by the attack of the air force on Agradable Bay. Although it was put out of action, it did not sink.

The same day: The HMS (L 3005) Sir Galahad and HMS (L 3035) Sir Tristan were sunk after being hit several times near Agradable Bay.

The same day: A LCM unit (medium size landing barge) was destroyed in the same action.

The same day: A Harrier GRMK3, serial number XZ1939 of the RAF was destroyed while landing at Goose Green Airport. The pilot escaped safely.

12 June: The HMS (D 19) Glamorgan, a light cruiser, was badly damaged by an MM-38 Exocet missile fired from a ground battery at Puerto Argentino.

The same day: 1 Wessex helicopter has 3, serial number XM-337 of the Royal Navy 737th squadron was destroyed aboard the cruiser Glamorgan.

13 June: 1 scout AH1-1 helicopter, serial number NR 628 crashed in the zone of Fitz Roy due to engine problems. No further details are known.

We only need to find out the fate of the sea Harriers FRS-1, serial numbers 453 and 391 of the Royal Navy 809th squadron, which, unlike the remainder of those planes, did not return to England.

Some time after the war, the Harrier GMRK3, serial number XW 767 of the RAF, crashed into the sea near Puerto Argentino on 6 November 1982.

CSO: 3348/298

BRIEFS

MULTIPARTY GROUP DOCUMENT RELEASED--Buenos Aires, 25 Mar (NA)--Today the multiparty group demanded that the military government "immediately rectify" its socioeconomic policy and bring forward the "date to hand over power." Moreover, it ratified its previous demands in the socioeconomic field pointing out that these demands "are a genuine expression of the majority of the Argentine society" and criticized the "monetary policy implemented in 1976, which destroyed the national economy." The multiparty group document, which was drafted after a lengthy meeting of the party leaders and members of the multiparty permanent board, was released shortly after 1800 by Enrique Vanoli, member of the radical party. The 35-line document which contains a general outline of the socioeconomic situation is quite different from the previous documents which became public knowledge through press reports. During more than 20 days the multiparty group, discussed this issue in the midst of a crisis which threatened to divide the group due to really antagonistic positions in the proposals made by the movement for integration and development (MID) and those of the other four members of the group. Last night, after an almost 2 and 1/2 hour meeting of the leaders of the group, the differences were overcome and it was agreed to release a document which only contains proposals of a general nature. [Excerpts] [PY272126 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2200 GMT 25 Mar 83]

CSO: 3348/298

'REPORTER' EDITORIAL SEES PUP INFIGHTING AIMED AT PRICE

Belize City THE REPORTER in English 6 Mar 83 p 2

[Text] There is one only area of common ground between the Manifesto of the Democratic Direction of the PUP left (Reporter of January 30) and the published Declaration last week of the Democratic Members of the PUP right.

It is that both the PUP left and the PUP right insist on their loyalty to and support of the Party leader.

This curiously, is the one part of both declarations that is the most difficult to believe. For after reading them there can be little doubt in anybody's mind that both factions would like nothing better than doing something energetic to the deriere of the ageing father-figure who has been dominating PUP politics for the last two decades.

In fact the criticisms levelled at the party from both ideological directions are essentially criticisms levelled at the party leader. The interesting thing here is that these criticisms come not from the foot soldiers, who are denied a forum of expression, but from the PUP lieutenants - the "colleagues of the cabinet" who stand in line waiting, hopefully to inherit the frayed mantle of a leader who has outstayed his welcome.

We have found the charges and the counter charges to be uncannily accurate. We agree, for example, with the statement of the Democratic Direction that the PUP is deeply divided at the leadership level. We have to concur also with its finding that the party has lost its soul and its self-respect and is today suffering from a deep malaise which is leading to mass disertions.

As insiders the Democratic Direction found that the party has used non-democratic methods to perpetuate its leadership; that the leadership lacks sincerity and dynamism and is no longer virile and responsive to the needs of its membership. We, looking on from the outside, have reached these same conclusions and have reflected that after 20 years in power in Belize, the main thrust of PUP politics is still self-perpetuation and not self-improvement.

But we also agree with the views expressed by the PUP right. The right wing of the PUP charges, and with a great deal of truth, that the Socialists and

Communists within the PUP have formed themselves into a party within a party and have embarked on a campaign aimed at seizing power from within. The evidence supporting this view is strong indeed. We learn with incredulity that Health Minister Mr. Assad Shoman late last year attended a meeting in Nicaragua in defiance of the Prime Minister and the Cabinet, and we recall, still with consternation, that the Cuban scholarships awarded to Belize students last year came through private channels not to the Belize Government which had decided not to accept them, but to the Minister of Education and Sports, Mr. Said Musa, who did.

The rivalry between left and right has caused serious disaffection within the PUP rank and file and has led among other things to the arrest of the Mayor of Belize City and the detention by Police of at least one elected City Councillor. It has led moreover to thinly veiled threats and ultimatums, and we fear it could spill over into the kind of violence which could convulse this country and bring about much unnecessary pain and grief. Clearly the upheaval now rocking the PUP is no longer a private matter for party stalwarts only. It is good for all the citizens of our country to take a close look at what is taking place today and to draw the right conclusions.

The ruling party today faces the most critical period of its 27 year old existence. It is a crisis of management—a crisis of leadership!

CSO: 3298/460

BRIEFS

ILLEGAL HONDURAN FISHING--Belize City, Sun., (Cana)--Belize has called on Honduras to crack down on the mounting number of Hondurans fishing illegally in Belizean waters. The appeal follows an incident in which Belizean police accidentally shot a Honduran fisherman in making an arrest. Belize has stepped up surveillance of its waters with a recently created maritime wing of its defence forces. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 7 Mar 83 p 5]

TIES WITH VATICAN--Belize City, Wed., (Cana-Reuter)--Belize established diplomatic relations with the Vatican today as Pope John Paul arrived for a two-hour visit. An official radio announcement broadcast shortly before the Pope landed in the former British colony said Belize had opened relations at Ambassador level with The Vatican. [Excerpt] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Mar 83 p 18]

BANANA WORKER LAYOFFS--Belize City, Belize, March 18 (CANA)--More than 200 banana workers in southern Belize, most of them Hondurans, have been laid off due to the financial difficulties facing the sector, personnel and labour advisor for the industry, Gatsby Ramos has announced. And since the retrenchment police have served deportation notices on some 200 Hondurans who had come to Belize in search of work. Before the retrenchment, the industry employed 700 workers, 400 in the regular work force and 300 casual labourers. The lay off sliced the regular work force by half and it is expected that some casual workers may also be fired. The Belize Government has been subsidising the banana industry since it started a pilot project in the Cow Pen area 1975. Recently the Commonwealth development Corporation (CDC) pumped 12.2 million dollars into the industry for the expansion of banana plantations and for an irrigation scheme "to boost yields". The layoff of banana workers "is a move to make the industry in Belize as viable as we can," Mr. Gatsby Ramos said. [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 83 p 9]

CSO: 3298/460

FRI PROTESTS AGGRESSION AGAINST NICARAGUA

PY291328 La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Mar 83 p 3

[Text] Morales Davila's faction of the revolutionary front of the left, FRI, yesterday issued a communique strongly protesting "the aggression which gangs of Somoza supporters armed, trained and backed up by the Reagan administration are carrying out against Nicaragua."

The 4-item communique added that this is an attack on all Central and South American nations and against the inalienable rights of our people "and must, therefore, meet with the united rejection of all the people of America."

The second item of the communique stated: "In its quest to preserve its exploitive hegemony over the people of the south, U.S. imperialism has not hesitated to physically attack Nicaragua, which has committed the serious crime of ousting Somoza's dictatorship and is currently trying to set up a democratic state based on the efforts and sacrifices of its people."

In the light of the situation confronting the people of Nicaragua, the FRI calls for the unity of all American institutions and people "to repel the imperialist aggression which is harmful to our rights as free people and to our dignity as citizens of America," the FRI communique stated.

CSO: 3348/296

FOREIGN MINISTER DENIES ARMS RACE INVOLVEMENT

PY282120 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1128 GMT 28 Mar 83

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Mario Velarde Dorado has stated that Bolivia is not and will never get involved in the arms race. Velarde Dorado made this statement following a report made by Chile's official newspaper EL MERCURIO in Santiago.

The foreign minister categorically stated that Bolivia will not get involved in the arms race as believed by Augusto Pinochet's spokesman, because Bolivia is a country that has economic problems and, moreover, which loves peace.

Mario Velarde Dorado also denied that Bolivia is promoting financial or any other kind of plans to purchase French Mirages.

The foreign minister said that the arms race calls for yearly disbursements totaling the astronomical amount of \$600 million, pointing to the fact that arms peddlers get (?most of) the benefit.

Velarde Dorado also said that third world countries are faced with a serious problem as far as the arms race is concerned because they must disburse \$80 million [yearly]. He also made it clear that a country like Bolivia, which is experiencing various difficulties [words indistinct], cannot and will not get involved in the arms race.

CSO: 3348/296

BRIEFS

BARRAGAN TO TIN PRODUCERS MEETING--The special meeting of tin-producing countries will be opened in London today. Bolivia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Nigeria, Zaire and Australia will participate in the meeting. Mining Minister Carlos Barragan left for England yesterday to participate in the meeting. Barragan rated the meeting as important for the future of international tin marketing. Minister Barragan stated that Bolivia's position in this regard is well known because Bolivia has strongly supported in previous meetings the need to create an international association of tin-producing countries that will adopt an adequate policy aimed at defending tin prices. [Excerpt] [PY281710 La Paz Cadena PanAmericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 28 Mar 83]

FLOODING, DROUGHT LOSSES--La Paz, 27 Mar (AFP)--According to official reports released in La Paz, "approximately 100 people died, 80 percent of this year's crops was lost and the houses of 40,000 people were destroyed in the wake of the extraordinary floods and drought that have affected 75 percent of Bolivian territory." In Santa Cruz, the department most badly hit by floods, the Pirai River destroyed a large number of houses, damaged a 40-km stretch of highway, washed away 10 bridges and damaged 10 km of railways. Eight thousand homeless have been located in a crowded emergency camp in the city of Santa Cruz. In the same department, eight trucks presumably carrying peasants disappeared under the waters in the El Chorita area. The city of Santa Cruz can now be reached only by air, since highway accesses have been destroyed. There are over 100 persons missing in northern Santa Cruz and though "the National Red Cross and the Civil Defense Service officially reported on 25 March that 68 people died," dozens of bodies have been found in the mud since that date. Substantial crop damage has been reported in Santa Cruz, Chuquisaca, Tarija and Cochabamba. Potosi's drinking water supply will only last 4 days, since the lakes that normally feed the city's reservoirs are drying up. President Siles Zbazo must cope with this emergency amidst a deep economic crisis in which the hard currency shortage will make the importation of food very difficult. However, he will try to obtain aid from France and from European countries during his current 5-day visit to Paris. [Summary] [PY291431 Paris AFP in Spanish 1713 GMT 10 Mar 83]

INVITATION TO YUGOSLAVIA'S ZARKOVIC--The Bolivian Government has invited Vidoue Zarkovic, member of the presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, to visit Bolivia in mid-April. In the corresponding invitation

made through the Yugoslav Embassy in Bolivia, Bolivian President Siles Zuazo expressed his desire to invite this Yugoslav official to visit Bolivia. The invitation states that my government has learned of the tour which your excellency will make through various Latin American countries. This event gives us a chance to invite you to visit our country, therefore, on behalf of my government and the Bolivian people I have the pleasure of inviting you and your (?distinguished wife) to visit us on the days which your excellency will deem most convenient within the framework of your tour through our continent. [Excerpt] [PY262327 La Paz Radio Illimani Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 26 Mar 83]

BELGIAN COOPERATION PROGRAM—The Belgian ambassador to Bolivia has confirmed that his country will cooperate in studies on the navigability of the Ichilo and Mamore Rivers. [Text] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 25 Feb 83 p 9 PY]

NATURAL GAS RESERVES—The natural gas reserves discovered by Tesoro Bolivia Petroleum Company and Occidental Boliviana, Inc., amounts to over 916 billion cubic feet. Tesoro Bolivia discovered reserves of over 869 billion cubic feet of natural gas in the La Vertiente, Escondido and Taiguati deposits in Chuquisaca Department. Occidental discovered 251 billion cubic feet of natural gas in the Tita and Porvenir deposits in Santa Cruz and Chuquisaca Departments. [Text] [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 3 PY]

MINING INCOME—The secretary general of the Medium Size Mining Association has reported that the loss of revenue from mining exports during 1982 amounted to \$165 million. [Text] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 18 Feb 83 p 1 PY]

CSO: 3348/296

UNIQUENESS, UNPREDICTABILITY OF NEW CONGRESS VIEWED

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Feb 83 p 6

[Article by Carlos Chagas]

[Text] Veteran Senator Amaral Peixoto commented a few days ago that the new Congress is the most unpredictable of all those he has been a member of since 1946. Without fear of error, and on the basis of all the experience he has accumulated during his long public career, he prophesied that anything might happen and that as a result, it will be necessary to wait out the next 90 days with caution and without any major conjecture.

The Congress that will begin its normal work on Tuesday, thus inaugurating the 10th legislature since the fall of the New State, is in fact unique and special in the country's political context. Legitimate and representative, since it derives from elections that were free although boxed in, it paradoxically owes its existence to the initiative of an executive branch which is neither representative nor legitimate and with which it will have to coexist. Let us explain: Gen Joao Figueiredo was not chosen by the national will but imposed by his predecessor in keeping with the conventions of the military system. In his exercise of power, however, the president has promoted the process of institutionalization and permitted elections that were held--for the first time since 1962--without the shadow of exceptional acts and arbitrary actions hanging over them. Anyone who wanted to run as a candidate did so without any preconditions beyond the trickery involved in the prohibition against voting across party lines, the Falcao Law, the ban on voting for factional lists, and other minor conditions. The voters elected whomever they wanted.

The deputies and senators who will begin work within 48 hours express, well or poorly, the society that elected them and will do so without any permanent and complete constraints. Whether members of the "in" group or the "out" group, however, they will be working face to face with a government which is only fictitiously authentic but which was, in fact, shoved down the nation's throat by those who have held power since 1964 without any real mandate.

At first glance, the contradiction seems insoluble, since unlike quantities do not add up together, and neither do they join with each other except--except in politics, and especially politics of the kind likely to be practiced here. A fortunate circumstance, be it said in passing.

The doubt, or danger, to which the former interventor, governor, and minister was undoubtedly referring resides in the two extremes of that unusual equation. Congress cannot behave as the exclusive possessor of national representativeness and legitimacy, even though it possesses them, nor can the executive branch continue to act as it has been doing since 1964 from within the military movement: as a guardian above and beyond the law or, more correctly, dictating its own laws. If both sides are able to find space for that strange dialogue on two different levels, things will be great. But if by chance they try to become completely imbued with their special distinctions, we can forget it.

Caution may form the basis for initial agreement or intransigence as a result of the confrontation. On both sides. Because despite being legitimate and representative, Congress will have to operate within a spectrum still crammed with defects from the dictatorial past. And the executive branch, for its part, and despite its origins, will have to continue in its role as the major lever for democratization. If, that is, the yearnings for institutional normality still exist here and there.

After theory comes practice. How will the legislative branch and the Federal Government get across that razor's edge planted in a minefield? To put it more precisely, what essential task will they have to perform together so that the democratic ideal will develop and materialize?

There are no doubts on that score: it can only be that of attempting to move ahead with the supposedly shared intention to refine democracy, and only a new constitution can delineate that refinement.

Here is where things will get bogged down, or are threatening to. If they do, there will be a collision. If they proceed, there will be a solution. Even if we rule out the romantic notion that Congress will be able to draw up a new constitution through the originating power that would be represented in a national constitutional assembly, a broad avenue remains open to it. This is because it enjoys derived constitution-making power, having the prerogative to amend today's ill-treated and discredited text anywhere except in its basic principles as they relate to the federation and the republic and to the gains expressed in the chapter on personal and other rights and guarantees. On the executive side, the situation is the same. The executive branch will have the responsibility to gradually rid itself of the absolutist mentality that still prevails and to accept many initiatives decided on by the majority in Congress--if not all of them--including those contrary to its own interests.

It will be necessary for both sides to be convinced of certain realities. The government must realize that the legislative branch is not an appendage or annex of its own or a favor it grants. Deputies and senators are no longer servitors and wards of Planalto Palace who are allowed to play congress, as they have been for the past 19 years. Instead, Congress, over which the executive branch still manifests de facto power, has its conventions, idiosyncracies, and taboos.

To the extent that coexistence on those principles is established and that specific events such as broad constitutional revision result, the solution will be

found. The reverse side of the coin is that if both sides try to occupy all the space specific to their status, the path to collision will be clearly marked.

Everything else is secondary. Or a consequence. This week we are experiencing one of those crucial periods which can lead to anything. It is a kind of oral examination based on an uncertain point but one in which, strangely enough, the schoolteacher is also a pupil and the pupils are schoolteachers.

Never in the annals of recent history has there been a situation like this, in which balance is not simply necessary but indispensable. But as Senator Amaral Peixoto said, it is unpredictable.

Crisis Brings Planalto Palace Closer to PDS

The government's relations with the opposition parties will be determined by how the opposition's representatives behave in Congress and in the state governments. Advisers to Planalto Palace say that in view of the unfavorable economic situation and greater freedom for political activity, and with the opposition governing in 10 states, the government's objective is to mesh more closely with its own party, the PDS [Social Democratic Party]. For that purpose, agreements have already been reached between Minister Leitao de Abreu and the party command, and the first step was to free the ministers to make statements in Congress.

Planalto Palace is trying to broaden its direct relations with PDS congressmen, especially at a time when the government is being harried by various accusations of scandal in government quarters, but the success of its attempt will depend on Minister Leitao de Abreu's behavior. PDS leaders acknowledge his competence, but they draw attention to the chief of the Civilian Household's lack of sensitivity and his aversion to dialogue--both so strong that progovernment congressmen who strongly disagree with his views will gradually be eliminated from his circle.

Deputy Nelson Marchezan is one of the key men on whom the government hopes to rely in its relations with the congressmen. This is because of his experience in leadership and as speaker of the Chamber of Deputies and the fact that he is fully trusted by both General Figueiredo and Minister Leitao de Abreu. The chairmen of the two houses, Nilo Coelho and Flavio Marcilio, both support the government, but their freedom of action is greater because of their independent temperaments and personalities. They are both considered important, however, since according to palace sources, the government wants to have more effective cooperation from the congressmen in solving so many accumulated problems.

In principle, Minister Leitao de Abreu and the PDS command have agreed that the government's most important bills will be communicated to the PDS leaders, who may even be called on to debate them ahead of time and present the facts for preliminary consideration by the opposition. According to Senator Nilo Coelho, that approach was used very successfully under Marshal Castello Branco's administration, and it would be ideal for a time of transition such as we are in now.

Senator Aloysio Chaves, although of a different temperament, has been instructed to follow the line of vigorous defense of the government that was followed by

former leader Jarbas Passarinho, but without his predecessor's great sarcasm and verbal or behavioral fits. While heedful of the political area, the government feels that economic issues will eventually arouse more interest in Congress this year--at least in the Senate--and will therefore deserve special attention. On that point, the possibility of difficulties between Minister Delfim Netto and Senator Roberto Campos is not ruled out, since they advocate different tactics for combating inflation or differing economic assumptions. The former minister-chief of the Planning Secretariat of the Presidency has already let the government know that he does not intend to defend his economic policy in congressional debates if Congress is not correctly informed concerning the essence of the problems and the government's views on them.

The government's expectation is one of confidence concerning its relations with Congress, provided that there is a continuation of President Figueiredo's approach during the election campaign: to keep the debate at a high level but to respond vigorously to accusations and provocations. The presence of former opponents of the regime who were elected by the opposition is no reason for concern, "since the amnesty was decreed with the intention of observing it," according to palace sources.

The government is also confident that there can be agreement with the PTB [Brazilian Labor Party] to facilitate the activity of the PDS, but in general, the government's strategy for dealing with Congress will be the same as the one it has outlined with respect to the opposition state governments: it will observe the behavior of Congress and the problems of its own that need to be dealt with so as to adapt the government's response to them through the PDS.

New Times Call for Negotiation

"Negotiate" has been the verb most conjugated by party leaders on the eve of renewed activity by Congress in preparation for the 1983 legislative session. As a matter of fact, that verb has been in common use among politicians both in the government and in the opposition camp ever since the results of the elections of 15 November revealed the balance of forces between the two parties and, chiefly, in connection with the unprecedented economic crisis being experienced by the country.

What is being sought through those negotiations? At first glance, the objective in day-to-day activities is to secure the majority vote needed for the passage of bills. And that is the only reason why the PTB, with its small bloc of 13 deputies, has become the pointer on the scale indicating the balance of forces between the PDS and the opposition parties, because the way it goes will decide the majority, regardless of whether the PTB is a part of the congressional blocs. What Golbery and Petronio Portella feared--the third party or party "above the dividing wall"--has finally come into existence through the undefined presence of the PTB in the political process.

The government's relations with its own party and the opposition parties, and relations among the parties themselves, are currently taking on considerably more importance than victories or defeats and successes or setbacks in the congressional routine. And the reason is simple: hovering in the background of

every setting in which legislative activity takes place is the presidential succession: the one which will determine--and by all indications, very shortly--the progress of alliances and ruptures among the various political forces. Those forces are confused at the moment because of uncertainty about the direction to be followed--even on questions of internal organization, as is the case with the PMDB [Brazilian Democratic Movement Party] and Leonel Brizola's PDT [Democratic Labor Party]--in relation to the CPI [Congressional Investigating Committee] looking into the SNI [National Intelligence Service].

The question of whether the mirage of a labor bloc uniting for operational purposes in the Chamber of Deputies (the PDT, PTB, and PT [Workers Party]) is going to materialize is less important, considering that the government has a comfortable majority in the Senate, that the automatic passage of bills [if Congress does not act on them] still exists, and that on issues of fundamental importance to the government, the not infrequent intervention by Congress shows that the latter is still far from having any effective influence. One example is the decree altering the wage policy (for the worse, from the wage earner's point of view), which will not be voted on until September. If it is rejected, the government can submit a new bill--not identical, but similar--that will continue to have the same effect for months on end.

So Congress is going on as best it can, with the reconquest of its main prerogatives and the yearning for a constitutional assembly in the near future running aground on the big issues looming up before us: the economic crisis and the presidential succession. Even episodes like the CPI concerned with the death of reporter Alexandre von Baumgarten are beginning to be swallowed up by one of those two big issues.

When such important opposition figures as newly elected Governor Tancredo Neves regard those investigating committees as inopportune, the reason is their conviction that despite all the advances made in recent years, democracy among us is still relative. But in so doing, they are attempting to set the tone for relations between the PMDB, with its formidable bloc of 200 deputies in the Chamber of Deputies, and the PDS, which is still the majority today with its 235 deputies. More important than numbers is the need to establish a common basis for preserving what exists and not harming a plan that constitutes one of the alternative possibilities in the presidential succession: the so-called consensus candidate, who, while not having everyone's support (considering that unanimity in politics is practically impossible), will nevertheless surely be able to unite the majority in the political area.

In that setting of agreements and disagreements among the parties, anything can happen, since a number of facts appear obvious: 1) the government continues to feel the need for a political coordinator to centralize its actions in that sector. The prominence of the PDS chairman, Senator Jose Sarney, and a number of other party leaders and officers does not represent a harmonious whole: it gives the impression of being a team without leaders and without a preestablished tactical plan; 2) the PMDB is still divided over the Baumgarten episode, while the PDT is hesitant, the PTB is silent, and the united PT, despite its minute number of deputies, is taking a vanguard position as a party in statements supporting the CPI; 3) the president of the republic loses no opportunity to display

his resentment of the opposition. Life nevertheless goes on, and chairmen Ulysses Guimaraes of the PMDB and Jose Sarney of the PDS have scheduled a meeting for next Tuesday in Brasilia to discuss extending the terms of office of the party executive committees; 4) in one form or another, dialogue is alive. The president complains about the opposition, but people in the forefront of the government's supporters are getting along satisfactorily with their counterparts in the opposition (granting, of course, that the PT is a special case); 5) the fact that a national party convention will be held within a year and a half--in September 1984--to nominate a candidate for president of the republic by secret ballot is evidence that the parties are on the rise, since that event is going to be the finishing touch to protracted negotiations or the outcome of a confrontation, but in either case, it will not have the features of a process simply for approving an accomplished fact, as has been the case since Costa e Silva succeeded Castello Branco; and 6) the fact that there are no longer two blocs radically opposed to each other in the political spectrum means that generalized negotiations are a procedural routine and reduces the possibility of confrontation. Considering the lockup at one extreme and direct elections at the other, the latter hypothesis, according to assessments by politicians of all groups, will easily be the winner. This reduces the danger of so-called accidents along the way. There is not likely to be a repetition of what happened during the proclamation of the republic, as related by Gilberto Freyre in his book "Order and Progress": Deodoro had irreconcilable differences with Silveira Martins, and rumors that the latter would head a new cabinet in place of Ouro Preto's cabinet precipitated events. It was 15 November 1889. On another 15 November--last year--the face of the country was changed through general elections, and their effects are continuing to make themselves felt. One of those effects is the establishment of dialogue and negotiations as the raw material for political activity, as is the case in democratic nations.

11798

CSO: 3342/77

FIGUEIREDO SUBMITS BILL FOR CHANGES IN IMBEL CHARTER

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 18 Feb 83 p 18

[Text] Brasilia--Yesterday President Joao Figueiredo sent a bill to the National Congress calling for three changes in the charter of IMBEL (Ordnance Industry). Under its amended charter, IMBEL will be able 1) to move its head office to Sao Paulo; 2) to expand its line of ordnance production and marketing to include "materiel of military interest"; and 3) to join with private firms to expand its production capability.

The changes in the charter will enable IMBEL to attract private capital with which to expand its industrial activities--previously limited to the production and marketing of ordnance--in all areas of manufacturing and marketing concerned with materiel of military interest--ranging from the communications, engineering, and health industries to factories for furniture, clothing, footwear, tools, bivouac equipment, cooking equipment, dining halls, and any other product for military use.

Under the changes being proposed to Congress, IMBEL will also be able to sell stock in the industries it currently controls to private groups. According to military sources, the firm intends to use that means to expand its plants in Juiz de Fora and Itajuba and enlarge and modernize its plants in Estrela and Piquete.

IMBEL controls the Itajuba plant (light weapons), the communications equipment plant in Caju (Rio de Janeiro), which functions more as the firm's research center, and the four explosives and munitions plants in Juiz de Fora, Andaraí, Estrela, and Piquete. Its subsidiaries are D.F. Vasconcelos (precision optical instruments) and PROLOGO (communications equipment). IMBEL owns stock in the Brazilian Cartridge Company (CBC), which produces ammunition for light weapons.

According to military sources, IMBEL may convert the firms it controls into subsidiaries or establish new subsidiaries with firms in the private sector. Those firms will have to contribute capital and technology to the establishment of subsidiaries, and IMBEL will contribute its assets (the plants and everything in them). The sources say that IMBEL's participation in private firms will result in better utilization of the idle capacity in those industries, which will also receive new technology.

Transfer of Head Office

The explanatory statement submitted by Minister of Army Walter Pires along with the bill submitted to Congress by President Figueiredo says that there is no reason for IMBEL's head office to remain in Brasilia, and he suggests that it be transferred to Sao Paulo or Rio de Janeiro, "preferably the former," because the firm has no plants in Brasilia and the capability for producing military materiel in the region surrounding the city does not exist.

11798

CSO: 3342/77

UNEMPLOYMENT RISES SIGNIFICANTLY IN SIX MAJOR CITIES

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 1 Mar 83 p 33

[Text] Unemployment rates in the country's six major metropolitan areas rose substantially in January: unemployed workers totaled 624,203 in December, but in January their number had risen to 902,590, or 7.34 percent of the economically active population of 12,296,800 workers, according to statistics released yesterday by the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE).

In the opinion of Jesse Montello, chairman of the IBGE, the rise in unemployment rates throughout the country was the result of layoffs in January of employees hired by retail firms in November and December of last year.

According to the IBGE, the unemployment rates include not only laid-off workers who have not found new jobs, but also those who have since gone to work for themselves by doing odd jobs. In the Sao Paulo metropolitan area, the unemployment rate rose from 4.38 percent in December 1982 to 7.27 percent this past January, bringing the number of unemployed workers up from 222,801 to 373,765.

The Belo Horizonte metropolitan area recorded the highest unemployment rate at 9.35 percent, compared to 7.42 percent in December (from 74,318 to 96,912 unemployed workers). Recife had the second highest rate of increase for a total of 8.63 percent, compared to 6.63 percent in December (from 54,949 to 71,188). Unemployment in the Rio de Janeiro metropolitan area totaled 7 percent with a total of 258,678 unemployed, compared to 5.10 percent in December. In Porto Alegre, the number of unemployed rose to 61,167, or 6.44 percent of the economically active population, compared to 5.01 percent in December 1982. In Salvador, unemployment rose from 5.12 percent in December to 6.30 percent in January.

The Country's Unemployment: January 1983

<u>Metropolitan area</u>	<u>Unemployed</u>
Sao Paulo	373,765
Rio de Janeiro	258,678
Belo Horizonte	96,912
Porto Alegre	61,167
Salvador	40,880
Recife	71,188
Total	902,590

RIO GRANDE DO SUL FIRM EXPORTS TECHNOLOGY TO AFRICA

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 27 Feb 83 p 47

[Text] Porto Alegre--Cordeiro International, the Cordeiro Group of Rio Grande do Sul's trading company for technology exports, will end this year with contracts totaling \$25 million in sales of services and technology. This was announced in Porto Alegre yesterday by Gilberto Francisco Pascual do Valle, the group's deputy chairman. He has just returned from a trip to the firm's principal market--Africa--where he arranged the setting up of a shoe factory in Mozambique and an integrated poultry complex in Liberia. Cordeiro has already sold a ceramic plant and a hydrated lime plant to Ghana and won the \$22-million contract to supply all the necessary equipment for services at Liberia's main hotel--now under construction--including everything from laundries to closed-circuit TV.

Pascual do Valle said that Cordeiro International made a diagnosis of the footwear sector in the People's Republic of Mozambique for the purpose of setting up the shoe factory. The total investment will be \$4.7 million. Cordeiro will provide the technical design, economic and financial feasibility studies, personnel training, technology, and technical assistance. It will also participate in managing the enterprise for 8 years. It will provide all the machinery, equipment, and raw material.

Pascual do Valle said that approximately 30 suppliers of all those items will be mobilized in Rio Grande do Sul to get the factory set up. They will include firms producing machinery, leather, chemicals, and components for the shoe industry. The Mozambican enterprise will be able to produce 2,500 pairs of shoes and sandals per day and will invoice \$4.5 million annually, with 40 percent being for export to other African countries.

As far as the poultry complex in Liberia is concerned, Cordeiro is currently putting together the necessary financial deals to make it viable. The complex will have one poultry unit for the laying of hatching eggs, another for commercial egg laying, a third for the production of broilers, an incubator, a feed factory, and a slaughterhouse. The investment will total about \$18.4 million, and 120 Brazilian manufacturers will be mobilized for this project, Pascual do Valle explained. The \$25 million worth of exports this year represent a very big increase in foreign sales by Cordeiro International, which began operating in the market in 1977.

RECRUSUL, Incorporated (Refrigerated Vehicle Bodies) of Porto Alegre will be shipping 40 more of its units during the first half of March to the Middle East. The firm has been exporting to that region for over 3 years.

PDS LEGISLATORS FEEL IGNORED BY GOVERNMENT

PY311412 Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 25 Mar 83 p 3

[From the "Notes and Information" page by F.M.: "Government's Disregard Irks PDS"]

[Excerpts] PDS [Social Democratic Party] federal deputies are becoming increasingly uneasy. They feel that they are being discredited by the government's disregard, which is reflected at all levels within the administration. Many legislators believe that there is an incipient "courtship" between Planalto Palace and moderate sectors of the opposition, to the detriment of the PDS itself.

There is an increasing number of complaints. However, many legislators do not know to whom they can complain objectively. This does not sit well with PDS leaders. Most complainers have given up their efforts to submit their requests for political vindication to Justice Minister Ibrahim Abi-Ackel. Some ventured, like the Espirito Santo federal legislators did, to knock at the door of Leita0 De Abreu, the chief of the civilian household of the presidency. But they returned disappointed, claiming that the issues they advances must be given more attention. An Espirito Santo representative, a member of a group that visited Leita0 De Abreu this week, put it this way: "The minister listened to us although he was looking at the ceiling and appeared indifferent, uninterested."

Another topic that has been referred to repeatedly during informal PDS meetings is that PDS legislators have no power to launch initiatives. Deputy Paulo Lustosa wonders: "Why has Minister Ibrahim Abi-Ackel drawn up the mixed district vote bill? Why didn't the government let legislators deal with that issue, which is of an essentially political nature? There was no response. Instead, there was criticism from the justice minister himself who, for reasons not yet understood, was annoyed by the fact that Senator Murilo Badaro, in his capacity as sponsor of bills dealing with the district vote, drew up and submitted a substitute bill of his own to the Senate Justice Committee.

Deputy Bonifacio De Andrada, PDS second ranking leader in the Chamber of Deputies, was astonished at the newspaper reports that the justice minister had sent an "informal note" to his press official decrying a senator's initiative.

By coincidence or not, the PDS regional bloc most critical of the Abi-Ackel mixed district vote bill is the Minas Gerais bloc. Last week the Minas Gerais PDS assemblymen delivered a document against that bill to the PDS president and the secretary general, Jose Sarney and Prisco Viana respectively.

During a casual dinner with PDS leader Nelson Marchezan, the Minas Gerais congressmen reiterated their decision not to back the district vote bill in the form submitted to congress by the justice minister.

A member of the Minas Gerais bloc, Deputy Gerardo Renault, reported that all of them expressed their solidarity with Marchezan because the bill was submitted to congress without giving him any advance information. Marchezan is, by the way, the most influential and well acquainted politician in the official sectors.

It is not just against the district vote bill that the PDS bloc is stirred up. Another serious problem that is making everybody uncomfortable is related to decree-law 2012 which amends the salary law. Just like Senate President Nilo Coelho did, leader Marchezan was realistic in telling the ministers and other government officials that the party, which no longer holds a congressional majority, will not be in a position to ensure the passage of decree-law 2012.

The government's reaction, which was made public through statements by Planning Minister Delfim Netto and Labor Minister Murilo Macedo, was startling: "The salary decree-law is non-negotiable." And the government went even further: If the salary decree-law does not make it through, a simple decree not subject to congressional approval will be prepared to eliminate salary readjustments every 6 months.

CSO: 3342/91

EDITORIAL VIEWS CUBA AS REGIONAL SOVIET PROXY

PY291339 Rio De Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 26 Mar 83 p 10

[Editorial: "The Grapes of Wrath"]

[Excerpt] Speaking of the Soviet influence in Central America, President Reagan is right and wrong at the same time. Obviously the Soviet Union has great interest in everything that happens in Central America--and everything indicates that its presence in the area is gradually increasing. As essayist Octavio Paz said not long ago: "The Russians received as a gift from heaven something that Napoleon III, Queen Victoria and the tszards always wanted: A political and military base in the Americas," That is, Cuba. However, thanks to the Cubans, the Soviet Union does not need to pay so much attention to Central America as suggested by Reagan's denunciation. The Soviet Union can act there through a middleman.

The Soviet Union is reaping in the U.S. backyard the fruits of a long period during which, from the U.S. standpoint, Central America and the rest of the Americas were no more than remote territories which demanded crumbs of time and money to deal with.

At the same time, in the nonviable and rebellious countries of the entire region an inexperienced and volatile left gives free reins to the rhetoric of resentment and complicates its own advances--as can be seen in Nicaragua which is radicalized far beyond what is advisable for creating an "internal front." The Sandinist regime breeds enemies and does not ever manage to take advantage of a visit such as that of Pope John Paul II, who feels personally offended by the regime's impertinent political propaganda during his visit. The Sandinist regime seeks the support of the Cubans in order to hold on, but this in turn draws the reprisal which, according to all indications, is being incited by the United States: the war that broke out on the border with Honduras and which seems to be directed more against the Cuban presence than against the Sandinist regime itself.

The reasons for misunderstanding are endless--like those that prevent any progress in El Salvador. The U.S. administration cannot manage to fully justify its policy--because there are no innocents in this conflict--and has thus been facing difficulties that are characteristic of the democratic decisionmaking process. Finding the space to do so, the Soviet Union is moving

its pawns--and Andropov is already mentioning the possibility of [word indistinct] missiles in Cuba in response to threats in the European theater.

Periodic appeals for dialogue flounder in misunderstandings and over the fact that each side speaks a different language as far as their interests are concerned. This is a crisis for which there is not even a glimmer of hope: "The grapes of wrath" seem frighteningly fertile here.

CSO: 3342/91

COUNTRY SECTION

PAPER LAUDS MILITARY STANCE ON COUP ANNIVERSARY

PY212023 Rio De Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 31 Mar 83 p 4

[Editorial: "Mission Accomplished"]

[Text] Today is the 19th anniversary of the coup d'etat that brought the armed forces into power in Brazil. No public acts celebrating the event are scheduled although within military installations there will be the customary speeches and parades.

Nineteen years ago, it is good to remember, the military takeover of government was widely supported and applauded by the civilian population and it generally was presumed at the time that the armed forces would not stay in power for more than a few years, at most. But by 1968, the military had extended its timetable and had cracked down on internal political dissent. Terrorism and subversion provoked a series of harsh internal security measures and civil society saw itself limited in its ability to influence government decisions.

By the mid-1970's, there was widespread perception within the armed forces itself--although by no means unanimously held--that it would be necessary to re-orient the mission of the military back to its professional origins and out of the heart of government. It has taken some seven years and the determination of two president-generals to reach the point where we are today, with what any honest observer must admit is a basically democratic and free society.

The fact that the 1964 "revolution" is not being celebrated in public is a political decision taken by the military, where wise heads have prevailed and decided not to rock the democratic boat. The same spirit prevailed on 15 March when military commanders did not attend the swearing in ceremonies of the newly-elected state governors.

All of the main military commanders in recent days have emphasized the need for the armed forces to "return to the barracks" and they are showing by actions, not only words, that this is being done. In the orders of the day of 31 March, Brazil's main military commanders all reaffirmed their commitment with democracy. The armed forces are leaving the political scene with dignity, which is the correct and honorable way to go.

CSO: 3300/15

BRIEFS

BRIZOLA DECREES WAGE READJUSTMENT--After a 3 and 1/2-hour meeting with deputies of all the parties represented in the state assembly, Rio de Janeiro State Governor Leonel Brizola decreed a 70 percent readjustment for public servant salaries. He also promised that starting in December 1983 public servants would receive an end of year bonus equivalent to 1 month's salary. The bill readjusting the salaries will be submitted to the assembly today. The readjustment will be effective as of 1 March 1983 and will be paid in April. Public servant salaries had been readjusted by 79.2 percent by former Governor Chagas Freitas on 1 March 1982. According to Brizola, the readjustment will raise the state deficit to 130 billion cruzeiros. However, the Rio de Janeiro governor will not seek to cover the deficit with tax increases. [Excerpt] [PY292034 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Mar 83 p 1]

FOREIGN MINISTER ON ANTARCTIC RIGHTS--Today Foreign Minister Ramiro Saraiva Guerreiro presided over a meeting of the National Antarctic Commission. During this occasion he said that Brazil is qualified to fully exercise the rights and duties provided for in the Antarctic Treaty since successfully completing expeditions to that continent during the summer of 1982-83. The third meeting of the CONANTAR convened to evaluate the results of the trips of the ships, Barao Do Teffe and Professor Bernard to the Antarctic over the period spanning from late 1982 and early 1983, as well as to prepare for the next Brazilian expeditions to that continent this coming summer. [Text] [PY300147 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 29 Mar 83]

CSO: 3342/91

DAILY DESCRIBES NAVAL-AIR AVIATION UNITS

PY301655 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 14 Mar 83 p C2

[Text] Chilean naval aviation, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary next Thursday, has naval air reconnaissance squadrons and helicopters for support and training.

This is an operating support force directly subordinate to the commander in chief of the navy. It is made up of naval air units, logistical support units and the personnel who operate and maintain the force.

The main naval aviation units are the 1st and 2nd Naval Air Groups based in El Belloto and Punta arenas respectively which are made up of squadrons.

The naval air reconnaissance squadron is made up of modern Brazilian made P-111 airplanes. These units normally operate with the squadron and the third naval zone.

The HS-1 helicopter squadron has Alouette III's specially equipped for anti-submarine warfare. The helicopters are aboard ships as part of the ship's weapons system.

The support squadrons are made up of Bandeirante C-95 and Casa 212 transport airplanes. These are used for the advanced training of pilots, passenger and cargo transport, towing of air targets for the squadrons, paratroop drops, evacuation of wounded and ill, close support for ground forces and other tasks, showing the many activities of the navy with its air resources from Africa to the Antarctic. The Bell Jet Ranger SH-57 helicopters, with a center of operations aboard the Piloto Pardo icebreaker, operate in the Antarctic.

The training squadron has modern Swiss made PC-7 Pilatus airplanes. There is also a naval aviation school, which was created on 17 April 1979. Its mission is to train specialists among officers and noncommissioned officers.

Regarding aerial photography, this task is carried out by a Piper Navajo PA-31 airplane which normally operates from Punta arenas in cooperation with the Naval Hydrographic Institute.

The commander of naval aviation is Rear Adm Ernesto Huber Von Appen.

DAILY LAMENTS ABSENCE FROM NONALIGNED GROUP

PY291612 Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 23 Mar 83 P A3

[Editorial: "Results of the Nonaligned Summit"]

[Text] The Seventh Nonaligned Summit attended by delegations and heads of state of third world nations recently closed in New Delhi. Despite the ideological diversity and the variety of positions prevailing in this group toward a number of problems, certain agreements were reached on the positions which should be upheld at international forums and negotiations.

The first development that must be noted regarding this meeting is the increasingly moderate political stand taken under the influence of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and other nations which have tried to maintain a measured attitude toward the problems discussed. The attitude of confrontation which prevailed under Fidel Castro's chairmanship has been replaced by an attitude more in keeping with the objectives of the nonaligned movement. This can be seen in the decision to return to the middle-of-the-road policy toward the great powers.

As to the economic claims, the nonaligned have also sought the path of dialogue with the industrial nations, which indicated the desire to deal with the overall negotiations from a realistic and mature point of view. Certain signs coming from the industrialized nations seem to suggest that there are now better prospects in this regard.

It is true that the summit did not reach agreements on several issues which will certainly reduce its potential for influencing the solution of existing problems. This was the case with the Cambodian delegation and of the war between Iran and Iraq, among other things. However, even in these cases positive political steps have been taken, steps which will contribute positively toward the development of certain especially significant negotiations. One of the most significant steps is probably Egypt's return to the movement, which simultaneously marks that country's reconciliation with the other Arab nations.

Latin America actively participated in this conference, partly because more Latin American countries joined the movement as members or observers and partly because the summit discussed several conflicts which are threatening this part of the world, like the situation in Central America and the Malvinas

problem. The fact that the most influential nations of the region attended the meeting allowed the interests of this region to be reflected prominently in the final resolutions. Certain unsuitable projects concerning the Antarctic and its resources have also been neutralized.

However, in Chile's case several improper resolutions concerning aspects of our nation's internal policy--such as the case of Bolivia's maritime claims--or sensitive domestic policy matters were approved. Chile's absence from the movement is mainly responsible for this. This paper has urged Chile many times to join the movement because the only way to defend its interest and help reestablish a true nonalignment is to actively participate in the work and discussions of the group.

CSO: 3348/288

BRIEFS

LOPEZ MICHELSEN RELINQUISHES LIBERAL LEADERSHIP--The Central Political Committee installed yesterday afternoon by former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen has elected Senator Jose Name Teran and Lucelly Garcia de Montoya president and vice president of the National Board of Directors of the Liberal Party. In officially turning over his post as sole leader of the Liberal Party, Dr Lopez Michelsen said during a brief speech that he is sure that the new National Board of Directors will provide a better opportunity for unity. Lopez Michelsen affirmed that the political committee "is no puppet that anyone and much less myself can manipulate." The former president said he is retiring to private life, away from the television cameras and the flashbulbs. The former president recommended that the new leadership pay strict attention to the measures adopted by this government and that the leadership give special consideration to the poor and to those who face the serious rent problems. [Text] [PA261424 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 23 Mar 83 p 1]

ENVOY TO GDR--Carlos Holmes Trujillo, liberal senator from Valle, will be the new Colombian ambassador to the GDR. He replaces Humberto Valencia Garcia. [PA261745 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 23 Mar 83 p 3 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO PORTUGAL--Former Santander Senator Dario Marin Vanegas has been sworn in as new Colombian ambassador to Portugal. [PA261745 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Mar 83 p 8A PA]

ENVOY TO URUGUAY, ALADI--Santiago Salazar Santos was named ambassador to Uruguay and head of Colombia's permanent mission to the Latin American Integration Association, ALADI. Salazar will replace Luis Avelino Perez. [Text] [PA261745 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 20 Mar 83 p 14-A PA]

AMBASSADORS PRESENT CREDENTIALS--The following ambassadors presented their credentials to President Belisario Betancur: Karl Wernberg of Sweden; Francisco Quinonez Reyes of Nicaragua and Max Hadotte of Haiti. [PA261745 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 15 Mar 83 p 6A PA]

NEW COAST GUARD VESSELS--The new armed forces coast guard ship has the following characteristics: length, 110 feet; draught, 7.5 feet; displacement, 110 tons. It is named the "Capt (Rafael Del Castillo Irrat)." Another seven ships will be acquired by Colombia this year to protect our sovereignty

and fight contraband and drug trafficking. [Text] [PA291206 Bogota Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Mar 83 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO POLAND--Bogota, 13 Mar (LATIN-REUTER)--The Colombian Government has appointed Gilberto Avila Bottia ambassador to Poland. [PA201618 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1815 GMT 13 Mar 83 PA]

AMBASSADOR TO GUATEMALA--Rodolfo Martinez Tono assumed his new post as ambassador to Guatemala before Colombian acting Foreign Minister Laura Ochoa de Ardila. [PA201618 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 11 Mar 83 p 8-A PA]

CSO: 3348/300

PARTY OFFICIAL DISCUSSES HUMAN RIGHTS IN COUNTRY

Havana CUBA SOCIALISTA in Spanish No 5, Dec 82-Feb 83 pp 87-124

[Article by Fabio Raimundo Torrado, member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba: "Human Rights in Cuba: Their Legal and Material Guarantee"]

[Text] We Marxist-Leninists who have made our *raison d'être* man, his material and spiritual well-being, his economic, social and political rights, we who fight for the elimination of every form of exploitation of man by man, will naturally always be in favor of real, true human rights.¹

Introduction

This analysis emphasizes the aspects referring to the institutionalization of the country and its corresponding legal organization concerning the socialist democracy and human rights, the constitutional principles that support them and complementary legislation and other legal acts that insure their exercise. The state, under the leadership of the party, has taken measures to make these important aspects in improving the legal awareness of our people a reality in the construction of socialism.

Through more than 100 years of struggle to achieve their complete independence, the Cuban people demonstrated their democratic ideals. In their confrontation with Spanish colonialism in the 19th century, the Mambises drew up constitutions like those of Guaimaro, Baragua, Jimaguayu and La Yaya that guaranteed the right of the rebel people to participate in the government and the leadership of the liberating revolution. Later, during the pseudorepublic, there were initiatives to win conquests for the workers in opposition to the bourgeois state. Through its repressive and antidemocratic organs, it tried to maintain the capitalist regime in Cuba and, on the international economic plane, submission to U.S. imperialism. During this period, the action of the delegates of the first Cuban Marxist-Leninist party to the 1940 Constitutional Assembly and others who held progressive positions was noteworthy. The immediate result was the adoption of a progressive and democratic constitution. However, this constitution still had a bourgeois nature. Many of the achievements in it depended on complementary laws that were never approved.

The victory on 1 January 1959 and the revolutionary government that arose with it received the determined support of all the people from the very beginning. They joined the revolutionary organizations and their armed branch, the Rebel Army.

From the beginning of its activities, the revolutionary leadership carried out the Moncada program announced by comrade Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC [Communist Party of Cuba] and president of the Council of State and the Council of Ministers, in his famous brief "La historia me absolvera" [History will absolve me]. Recounting the achievements of the revolution 20 years later, comrade Fidel pointed out how the people viewed the revolutionary government: "For the first time, the laborer, the peasant, the student, the most humble strata of the people, rose to top levels in national life. The revolutionary government was their government, the state was their state, the soldier was their soldier because they themselves became soldiers. The rifle was their rifle, the cannon their cannon, the tank their tank, the authority their authority because they were the authority."²

During its first years, the essential purpose of the Cuban revolution was to guarantee its survival and repel imperialist aggressions, the economic blockade, the counterrevolutionary bands, diplomatic isolation and the actions of all types of spies and saboteurs financed by the CIA.

The tasks that this imposed forced the state to firmly use the strength of its institutions facing the internal and external counterrevolution. However, this was an essentially democratic state for the large popular masses although during that stage there were no formally representative institutions.

Now, with our revolution consolidated and with the increased political awareness of our people, a broader development program for the socialist democracy is being carried out.

One basic principle of socialist democracy is its constant improvement through the practical and real incorporation of a growing number of workers to state administration. It is the right of each citizen not only to participate in state administration through his representatives but also through direct personal activity.

Experience has demonstrated that this task could not be carried out if we only used the old bourgeois political formula of universal suffrage and representative government organs. New laws were needed to permit all citizens to participate in the solution of state matters.

The different forms of citizen participation in state and economic management become more and more a feature of daily work in the stage of constructing socialism.

The principles applied by the Cuban revolution when it formed its socialist democratic organs and proclaimed the rights and duties of each citizen take into consideration the specific conditions under which our revolutionary process has developed. When stipulating the principles that govern our institutions, we knew how to evaluate and creatively apply the experiences of other

socialist countries. We have governed ourselves by the postulates of Marx, Engels and Lenin.

In 1974, the first steps were taken to give the country a socialist constitution. The draft constitution was made public on 24 February 1975. It was submitted for discussion by all the people through their mass organizations: the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution], the CTC [Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions], ANAP [National Association of Small Farmers], the FMC [Federation of Cuban Women], the student organizations and the UJC [Union of Young Communists]. The party also actively participated in the discussion. This draft was presented to the First PCC Congress and approved with the amendments that had been introduced in the public discussion. As a result of the national referendum on 15 February 1976, the draft constitution became the fundamental law of the state, approved by 97.7 percent of all the voters.

In addition, the First PCC Congress passed important agreements to establish a new political-administrative division of the country with the objective of organizing people's government organs throughout Cuba in 1976. That year there were elections for delegates to the municipal assemblies. They, in turn, elected delegates to the provincial assemblies. In November of that same year, the provincial assemblies elected the deputies to the national assembly. On 2 December 1976, the 20th anniversary of the landing of "Granma," the first session of the National People's Government Assembly was held. In that way, the organs of our socialist state were formed at all levels of the country.

In that electoral process which is repeated every 2-1/2 years for the municipal and provincial level and every 5 years for the national assembly, all citizens 16 years of age and older have the right to participate and be elected as delegates to the municipal or provincial assemblies. A deputy to the national assembly must be at least 18 years old.

In the elections held on 10 October and 17 October 1976, both by secret ballot, about 5.5 million citizens--that is, more than 95 percent of all voters--participated. More than 6 million voters--97.2 percent of the registered voters--participated in the elections of 11 October 1981. This shows the high level of popular participation in the formation of our state government organs.

Our present situation fully guarantees the freedom of the people to elect. With the exploiters overthrown, the workers--that is, the laborers, the peasants, the intellectuals, the employees, etc.--whose interests basically coincide exercise power firmly. They all pursue the objective of constructing the socialist society.

Lenin stated: "We have a 'marvelous resource' to suddenly /increase tenfold/ [in italics] our state system, a resource no capitalist state has ever had nor can have. This marvelous resource is the incorporation of the workers... to the daily work of state management."³

These words express the essence of the activity of all Cubans in the socialist democracy.

Different than the bourgeois democracy, the socialist democracy proclaims the political, economic and social rights of the citizen without reserve or

restriction. It is not limited to recognizing them formally but creates the material opportunities necessary so that he can enjoy those rights. It not only provides equal rights but also equal opportunity.

The socialist state is the guarantor and protector of human rights on the legal plane. It can do this because the basic means of production are in the hands of the people. It is a state of the laborers, the peasants and other manual and intellectual workers.

We will limit this article to an explanation and comment on the most important legal norms concerning the exercise of human rights approved by the state in recent years.

General Principles on Concept of "Human Rights"

To understand the socialist concept of human rights, we must start with the founders of Marxism.

According to Engels in "Anti-Duhring," human rights can only be spoken of, in the modern acceptation of the word, based on the bourgeois social class within society. Engels pointed out: "Everywhere there were local privileges, differentiating tariffs, laws of exception of every type obstructing the trade not only of foreigners or the inhabitants of the colonies but many times of entire groups of the subjects of the country. They were everywhere. Union privileges obstructed the development of manufacturing. Nowhere was there an open path or equal opportunities for the bourgeois competitors; nevertheless, this requirement was primordial and became more urgent.

"Emancipation from the feudal shackles and the implementation of legal equality, abolishing the inequalities of feudalism, were demands that, once brought up by the economic progress of society, would soon assume larger dimensions. Proclaimed in the interest of industry and trade, there was no other answer than to extend this postulate of equal rights to the large mass of peasants. Subject to an entire range of vassalage that even reached complete servitude, they spent most of their time working for free for the kind feudal lord. They even had to pay him and the state innumerable tributes. Once on this road, there was no other remedy than to demand the abolition of feudal privileges, tax exemptions for the nobility and the political privileges of each estate. Society no longer lived in a world empire like the Roman empire but in a system of independent states that maintained equal treatment among themselves. They had reached an almost equal degree of bourgeois development. Therefore, it was natural that those tendencies assume a general nature, crossing the boundaries of the states. It was natural that freedom and equality would be proclaimed as 'human rights.' In order to understand the specifically bourgeois nature of these human rights, nothing is more eloquent than the U.S. Constitution. It is the first in which the rights of man are defined in the same breath with the slavery of the blacks, existing in the United States⁴ then. Class privileges are respected and race privileges are sanctified."

One of the main objectives established in the UN Charter is the decision of the member countries to "reaffirm faith in the basic rights of man." Thus,

the UN General Assembly approved and proclaimed the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on 10 December 1948.

In that document, human rights can be divided into two categories. One covers civil and political rights such as the right to life, liberty, personal security, the prohibition of torture and slavery, the right to participate in government, the rights of freedom of thought, conscience, association and assembly, etc. The other covers economic, social and cultural rights, those related to work, an adequate standard of living, education and free participation in the cultural movement of society, etc.

From the point of view of less reactionary bourgeois concepts, it is felt that three conditions are needed for those rights to become a legal reality:

There must be a society organized as a state.

In the state, human rights must be exercised within a preestablished legal framework which will vary based on the type of rights and existing circumstances.

The exercise of human rights must mean the existence of concrete legal guarantees and there must be resources to make them respected.

According to the socialist concept, the presence of material, legal, political and ideological means for their realization is particularly important for human rights to become reality. No one can deny the fact that they cannot be respected if a minority social class possesses the basic means of production and exploits the work of the majority of society. In those places where the division of social classes permits inequalities in the exercise of rights, human rights are not applied even if they have been proclaimed by all.

In other words, there must be other factors in addition to strictly legal conditions. There are differences, then, between the bourgeois and socialist concepts of human rights. These lie basically in the fact that their apparently liberal statement in the former lacks practical implementation and is effective only for the representatives of the dominating class. In the latter, taking everything positive from the first, they are extended to all society since it owns the basic means of production. In short, while private ownership of the principal means of production constitutes a basic human right for the bourgeoisie, under socialism those means of production are exclusively the social patrimony.

Human Rights in Cuba

Only with the triumph of the revolution was it possible to make human rights in our country a reality. Comrade Fidel has pointed out that the people identified with the process from the very beginning because, for the first time: "The human being would ever again suffer humiliation for the color of his skin; no woman would have to prostitute herself to earn bread; no citizen would have to beg; no old person would remain destitute; no child would be without a school; no eyes without knowing how to read; no hand without knowing how to write."

With these beautiful words spoken at the main celebration of the 20th anniversary of 26 July in Santiago de Cuba, comrade Fidel expressed the essence of the dual relationship between the statement of basic human rights and their material guarantee.

The exercise of human rights, in direct relationship with the development and deepening of our socialist democratic institutions, has been validated through a well-planned legislative process which began with the socialist constitution and extends to the discussion and approval of many complementary laws.

In this way, the Cuban socialist state merely carried out the main postulates of our ancestors. The preamble of the Constitution is clear: "We declare our desire that the law of laws of the republic start with Jose Marti's great desire which has been finally achieved: I want the first law of our republic to be the respect of the Cubans for the complete dignity of man."

In Cuba, as in the other fraternal socialist countries, the Constitution reflects the attention that society, the state and the party give to the individual.

One of the main functions of the socialist Cuban state is to insure and protect the rights and duties of the citizens. Article 8, clause a, of the Constitution states: "The socialist state: a) carries out the will of the working people and.../guarantees the freedom and complete dignity of man, the enjoyment of his rights/ [in italics], the exercise and fulfillment of his duties and the integral development of his personality;..." (The emphasis is ours, F.R.T.)

The Constitution itself includes the main rights and duties, the basic guarantees for their free exercise and the constitutional principles that serve as the basis. Following the order in which they are expressed, the constitutional rights include: equal rights and duties (Article 40); the right to work (Article 44); the right to rest and social security (Articles 45, 46 and 47); the right to health protection (Articles 48 and 49); the right to education (Article 50); the right to physical education, sports and recreation (Article 51); the right to freedom of word and press (Article 52); the rights of assembly, demonstration and association (Article 53); freedom of conscience (Article 54); the inviolability of the home and correspondence (Articles 55 and 56); and individual freedom (Article 57).

The action of the socialist state is not limited to the statement of those rights in its basic law as occurred in the former bourgeois republic. Their exercise is guaranteed legally and materially.

Let us see how the legal guarantee of human rights has been implemented.

Equality

Article 349 of the Penal Code punishes anyone who discriminates against another person or promotes and incites discrimination, whether with demonstrations or offensive intention, based on sex, race, color or national origin

or with actions hinders or impedes the exercise or enjoyment of the equal rights established in the Constitution. - The punishments range from imprisonment for 6 months to 3 years or fines of 200 to 500 pesos or both.

Article 42 of the Constitution also provides that all "citizens, without distinction of race, color or national origin:

"Have access, based on merits and abilities, to all positions and jobs of the state, public administration and production and services;

"Can rise to all levels of the revolutionary armed forces and security and domestic order forces based on merits and abilities;

"Receive equal wages for equal work;

"Enjoy education in all the educational institutions of the country from primary school to the universities;

"Receive medical care in all hospital installations;

"Reside in any sector, zone or district of the cities and stay in any hotel;

"Be served in all restaurants and other public service establishments;

"Use maritime, railway, air and automotive transportation without segregation; and

"Enjoy the same spas, beaches, parks, clubs and other centers for culture, sports, recreation and rest."

The Right to Work

The right to work has been a reality since the first days of the triumph of the revolution. In bourgeois states, when the right to work is recognized, it is impossible to practice since private ownership, the quest for larger profits and production anarchy generate unemployment and underemployment that increase each day until they reach appreciable percentages of the active population. In Cuba, on the contrary, the state, in accord with its socialist principles, guarantees this right through the execution of the corresponding investments and the development of the single plan for the national economy.

New sources of employment are created constantly by starting up industrial plants and projects of every type. For example, in the 5-year period 1976-80 construction expanded considerably. Industrial projects tripled the volume of those in the previous 5-year period with more than 300 objectives completed during the period. In construction materials, 2 new cement factories and 33 gravel and sand plants were among those incorporated. In basic industry, to cite only a few examples, a rolling press, the cane combine factory, a battery factory, two irrigation parts factories, a wheel factory and a stainless steel foundry were completed. Also more than 1,000 agricultural projects were carried out including 555 dairies, 95 calf-raising centers, 61 poultry installations, etc.

The revolution is not only concerned with finding new sources of employment but has also maintained a policy aimed at proportionately stabilizing the wages that the workers receive for their work. The objective is for every family to receive at least the minimum amount indispensable for the satisfaction of its basic needs. One example is that during the last 11 years--that is, from 1970 to 1980--the average wage increased steadily from 108 pesos in 1970 to 148 pesos in 1980. In 1981, the General Wage Reform was introduced and bonus systems were applied which raised the average wage to 168 pesos. The increases in the industrial sector are particularly notable; wages increased from 156 pesos in 1980 to 176 pesos in 1981. In the sugar industry, they rose from 172 to 212 pesos in the same period and in the construction sector from 164 to 185 pesos.

The Right to Health

The right to health protection established in Articles 48 and 49 of the Constitution is legally guaranteed in the Penal Code which punishes crimes which endanger public health (Articles 212 to 227). It has its material support in such important facts as the following:

In the United States where there is private medicine, each day of hospitalization cost a patient an average of \$230 in 1978. Medical, hospital and dental care are free in our socialist fatherland.

At the end of 1981, we had 266 hospitals, 388 polyclinics, 136 dental clinics, 121 medical posts and 53 rural hospitals in Cuba. There were 56,505 hospital beds--that is, 5.3 beds for every 1,000 inhabitants, one of the highest rates in Latin America. There were eight more hospitals under construction and other hospital centers were expanded. The number of doctors also increased to 15,247 by 1980--that is, 1 doctor for every 641 inhabitants. By 1981, this figure had risen to 16,193 or 1 for every 600 inhabitants. The number of dentists and nurses increased similarly. There were 3,646 dentists and 13,351 nurses in 1980; a year later, there were 4,087 and 14,156 respectively.

Contagious diseases like malaria and poliomyelitis have been completely eradicated. Many rates like the infant mortality rate have notably decreased. That rate went from more than 60 deaths for 1,000 born alive in 1959 to 19.6 deaths for every 1,000 born alive 21 years later in 1980. In 1981, this rate was 18.5 deaths for every 1,000 born alive. According to present estimates, life expectancy has increased to about 73.5 years for women and 70.0 years for men, the same level as some of the most developed countries in the world today have. These achievements are possible due to the massive resources that our country devotes to this sector.

To insure the training of medical personnel, there are four advanced medical sciences institutes with 11 medical schools. In 1959, there was only one university medical school in the entire country which was in Havana City. The rates of mortality, in general, are the lowest in Latin America. Each year many medical centers open. These rates make it possible to insure that conditions are present to convert our country into a medical power.

The Right to Education

The right to education is not only recognized constitutionally but is guaranteed materially. Man needs to be instructed to achieve integral training of his aptitudes so that he can give his best in work. He also needs knowledge to understand political activity and to take part in it and participate in the decisions and the work of governing. Illiteracy mocks the dignity of man and human rights. However, in many capitalist countries--particularly those of the so-called "Third World"--the poorest strata of the population are given "the freedom to remain ignorant."

According to UNESCO figures, the absolute number of illiterates will go from 742 million to 814 million between 1970 and 1990 if present trends continue.

Since the first days of the triumph of the revolutionary government, measures were taken in Cuba to eliminate this negative phenomenon. In 1961, a literacy campaign was carried out and successfully completed in spite of the mercenary attack at Playa Giron. It gave approximately 1 million Cubans who, until then, had been submerged in ignorance the opportunity to learn to read and write.

Education is not only a right for all here but is also an obligation for youths of certain ages. According to Article 38, clause ch, of our constitution: "The law stipulates...the extent of the requirement to study." The First PCC Congress directed the preparation of a general education law which, among other things, would determine the age or cultural level to which all Cubans must study. It agreed that the members who had not yet completed eighth grade in 1975 must achieve this by the Second Party Congress.

The CTC launched a campaign so that the members of the Cuban working class who did not have a sixth-grade education would achieve this. This campaign culminated successfully and the battle for ninth grade began in 1981.

The number of sixth-grade graduates in the 5-year period 1975-80 was equivalent to the number of graduates in the first 16 years of the revolutionary period and was 269,000 more than all sixth-grade graduates from 1902 to 1958--that is, during all the years of the pseudorepublic.

To make the practice of this right a reality, there is capacity for 3,452,900 students, the enrollment for the 1979-80 school year. Almost 900,000 of these were on scholarships or were semiboarding students.

In 1980, out of every 100 students, 55.3 were in primary education, 38.1 in intermediate education and 6.6 in the universities. The growth of higher education centers can be seen in the fact that there were only 5 in 1975 and 40 in 1982--that is, an eightfold increase.

One aspect of particular importance to guarantee the exercise of this right is that it is free, even school materials. Article 50 of the Constitution states this.

The state has taken measures to guarantee the students' access to these materials. For example, since 1975 an average of 23 million copies of textbooks a year have been printed. In 1979, 26,454,600 textbooks were printed. The 1980 state budget for education rose to 430.08 million pesos. This is 16 times more than in the year before the triumph of the revolution.

To understand the essence of the revolutionary government's position toward education, nothing is more expressive than what comrade Fidel said at the commemorative celebration on 26 July 1978 in Santiago de Cuba: "In our fatherland...we want everyone to study, we want everyone to learn and we want everyone to correctly interpret the world in which we live.⁵ We do not tell anyone to believe; we tell everyone to think, study, decide."

The Right to Complain

The constitutional right of the citizens "to direct complaints and requests to the authorities and to receive the pertinent attention or response within an adequate period of time," according to law, is an innovation among the Cubans. Another is the right to receive indemnity or corresponding reparations for "damage or harm caused illegally by officials or agents of the state in the exercise of functions proper to their positions" (Article 62 and Article 26 of the Constitution).

As a complement to the right to complain, Article 52, clause r, of Law No. 1323 of 1976 (Law of Organization of the Central State Administration) states that it is the duty of the organisms in the Central State Administration to give attention and pertinent response within 60 days to the complaints and requests of citizens. They must also try to correctly solve the problems presented and adopt measures to eliminate deficiencies indicated.

Freedom of Conscience

We find an explanation of what must be understood as freedom of conscience, in its broadest sense, in the statement approved by the First PCC Congress held in December 1975. It stated: "The party upholds the principles of freedom of conscience--that is, the right of citizens to profess a religion or not, to practice religious beliefs within the law, the unacceptability that any religion be used to fight the revolution and socialism, the obligatoriness of compliance with the laws and recognition of the same social rights and duties for believers as well as nonbelievers, scientific education and secular schools and attention to the material problems of religious installations that require aid from state organs."⁶

This concept is different than in the bourgeois countries where freedom of conscience excludes those who do not practice any religion. In some of them, those who do not believe are persecuted or discriminated against in the exercise of other human rights like, for example, the opportunity to work.

The thesis on the policy toward religion, the church and believers--also approved at the First PCC Congress--and its corresponding resolution developed a series of postulates aimed at carrying out this concept on freedom of

conscience. The Second PCC Congress verified the progress achieved in the application of this policy 5 years later.

According to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, freedom of conscience is an indispensable element for the multifaceted development of the human personality. It requires the satisfaction of a set of political, objective and subjective conditions for its free exercise within society.

From the political point of view, these are:

Complete separation between the church and the state and between the church and schools to limit the former's activity exclusively to the satisfaction of the religious needs of the believers;

The right of citizens to profess any religion or not to profess any;

The elimination of any privilege or preference related to the profession of a religion or nonprofession; and

Equal treatment by the state of all legally recognized religious denominations.

From the objective point of view, the following can be considered:

The elimination of private ownership of the means of production;

The elimination of exploitation of man by man;

Secularization of church property; and

Suspension of economic aid to the church by the state, reducing its support to the voluntary contribution of its believers.

From the subjective point of view, these can be considered:

General access of workers to education, culture and science;

The prohibition of religious education of children in the schools; and

The opportunity for a conscious relationship with religion so that atheistic propaganda must be guaranteed.

The complete satisfaction of these conditions first requires the existence of a socialist revolution and a state inspired by Marxism-Leninism. This is achieved through the common interests of the believers and nonbelievers in the fight to build a new society. This is supported by agreement toward such aspects as: social justice, the fight for the broadest democracy for the popular masses, etc. Lenin's statement is illustrative: "Unity in this truly revolutionary struggle of the oppressed class to create a paradise on earth is more important to us than the unity of beliefs of the proletariat about a heavenly paradise."

Consequently, it can be concluded that any position excluding or repudiating a believer who does not politically or actively attack the revolution and who obviously wants to contribute to that great project is radically opposed to Marxism-Leninism.

From the legal point of view, we can see that Article 54 of the Constitution of our fatherland establishes the obligation of the Cuban state to recognize and guarantee freedom of conscience. It states: "The socialist state that bases its activity and educates the people in the scientific materialistic concept of the universe recognizes and guarantees freedom of conscience, the right of each one to profess any religious belief and to practice, within the law, the belief of his preference.

"The law regulates the activities of the religious institutions.

"It is illegal and punishable to use faith or religious beliefs against the revolution, education or the fulfillment of the duties to work, defend the fatherland with arms, respect its symbols and the other duties set forth in the Constitution."

Complementary legislation to the Constitution determines the precise relationship between the state and the church and between the state and religion. The Second PCC Congress recommended that the appropriate state organs complement and improve the system of laws that guarantee the free practice of freedom of conscience.

Therefore, there are now laws that protect the rights of believers and, at the same time, demand and guarantee that they observe social order.

The Penal Code (Law No. 21 of 15 February 1979) cites the crime against freedom of religion. It states: "Anyone who impedes or disturbs public acts or ceremonies of registered religions held in accord with legal provisions will be punished by imprisonment for 3 to 9 months or a fine of 100 to 270 pesos or both" (Article 348, clause 1).

It also includes the case of this being committed by a public official in abuse of his position. In this case, the punishment will be imprisonment from 6 months to 3 years (Article 348, clause 2).

The Penal Code also cites the counterpart of the preceding paragraph as a crime. It introduces the crime of "abuse of freedom of religion," stating: "Anyone who abuses freedom of religion as guaranteed by the Constitution by using religious beliefs against the objectives of education or the duty to work, defend the fatherland with arms, respect its symbols or any other duties established by the Constitution will be punished by imprisonment for 3 to 9 months or a fine up to 270 pesos or both" (Article 237).

In Cuban socialist legislation, there has never been any law that punishes a person for his religious convictions or for any type of conviction. Occasionally, certain people, hiding behind religion but actually persecuting others, ignore the law and try to arouse opposition in other believers to the

religious policy of the party and the state. That is the case of the Jehovah Witnesses who hurt the health of believers and oppose the fulfillment of their obligations as citizens to the fatherland with their rites. These acts constitute violations of the laws and are, therefore, punished as crimes. The punishments that are imposed in these cases by the organs of justice in the country are exclusively against those who violate the law and only for that reason, not because they profess their particular religious belief.

Therefore, the Cuban state guarantees by law the practice of freedom of conscience. Comrade Fidel stated: "I think that if socialism seeks maximum freedom of man, why would it exclude from society the right to religious convictions?"⁸

In addition to the legal protection that the religious institutions receive, they also enjoy certain facilities. In Cuba the church is separated from the state and the schools from the church. Article 38, clause b, of the Constitution states: "Education is a function of the state. Consequently, the educational centers are state centers." Nevertheless, this does not mean that the religious institutions cannot, within the scope of their churches, train their believers in their customs, liturgical rites and specific doctrines as part of their religious activity. Neither does it keep them from having training centers for professional servants of the religion (priests, clergymen, etc.). These include the Catholic San Carlos and San Ambrosio Interdiocesan Seminary, the Catholic Santiago de Cuba Minor Seminary, the Matanzas Theological Seminary of the Ecumenical Council of Cuba, etc.

In addition, they can be authorized to acquire transportation vehicles in accord with existing regulations. They receive permission to carry out local, provincial, national and even international activities, exchange experiences, religious celebrations, etc. For example, in 1977 the meeting of the CELAM Vocations Department was held in our country.

There are now more than 52 recognized religious institutions and groups, including the Catholic Church, Presbyterian, Baptist, Adventist, Quakers, Pentecostal, Methodist, Evangelical, Salvation Army, etc. There are more than 1,500 churches with approximately 35 percent belonging to the Catholic Church. The rest belong to Protestant churches and sects and other denominations which function regularly without any impediment. They also have authorization to publish periodical religious publications, in accord with existing regulations, like, for example, VIDA CRISTIANA. It is published by the Catholics and circulates legally in the churches and homes of believers of that religious denomination. The state provides materials and other supplies for publication.

Freedom of conscience also protects the syncretic religions in our fatherland which have an African origin. There are three more or less defined ones: the Rule of Eight, most known for its priests; the Conga Rule, also known as Palo Monte; and the Abakua Secret Sect. The most widespread of these three beliefs is the first.

One example of the extent of the Marxist-Leninist concept of freedom of conscience is the treatment that these syncretic religions now receive. They receive the same respect and consideration granted to the Catholic or Baptist,

for example. Under the bourgeois regime, these beliefs were persecuted and prohibited. Even belonging to one of them was considered under criminal law as a very dangerous aggravating circumstance--Article 40, clause e, of the Social Defense Code (repealed). Their believers were punished by fine or arrest of up to 30 days since their existence was considered a violation of public order. It was felt that these were religions or beliefs contrary to "civilization" and "good manners"--the bourgeois ones, naturally. That injustice was stated in Article 571, clause 14, of the Social Defense Code (repealed).

Those discriminatory laws cannot exist in our country now since the Marxist-Leninist concept, which is the concept of our party and socialist state, proclaims that all religions are equal in essence and, therefore, do not merit different treatment.

The Right to Social Security

Another constitutional principle developed by our legislation is the right to social security (Article 46 of the Constitution).

The National People's Government Assembly passed Law No. 24 of 1979, the "Social Security Law," which regulates the social security system. This system includes the social security system itself and a social welfare system. The first offers protection to the worker in case of illness or accident of common or professional cause, maternity, incapacitation and old age. In case of death, it protects his family. The second protects especially the old people, people not able to work and, in general, all those whose essential needs are not taken care of or who, due to their living conditions or health, require protection and cannot solve their problems without help from society. This law was regulated by Decree No. 59 of the Council of Ministers and by Resolution No. 407 of 28 December 1979 of the State Committee for Labor and Social Security.

This legislation complements Articles 46 and 47 of the Constitution and expands the benefits covered in the repealed Social Security Law (Law No. 1100 of 27 March 1963).

We can get an idea of the increase in benefits covered in the new legislation compared to the repealed legislation in the following facts.

In cases of partial incapacitation for work, a pension is paid equivalent to a percentage of the difference between the previous wage paid to the worker and the one that he now receives for the new job based on his incapacitation and taking into account his years of service and the cause of the incapacitation. This percentage fluctuates between 30 and 60 percent. This measure will mean an additional expenditure of 59.5 million pesos in social security in the period 1980-85.

In the case of social welfare, based on the old Law No. 1100, the expenditures incurred rose to 11,761,700 pesos in 1978. This only included the monetary loans and in kind offered by the appropriate departments of the labor offices of the people's government. The expenses of other organisms that provide

numerous services are not included. For example, the average daily cost in 1978 for lodging and care in a home for the aged was about 3.39 pesos. It included food, clothing and medical and social care, among others. However, the measures included in the new legislation concerning the same monetary loans and in kind represent an increase in social welfare expenses of about 49.5 million pesos in the period 1980-85.

Legal Guarantee for the Exercise of Human Rights

In general, there is not one human right in our constitution whose exercise is not safeguarded in one way or another with a legal ordinance. If we analyze Chapter IX of the Penal Code, we will see crimes such as the following: "crimes against personal freedom" which include deprivation of freedom, threats and coercion; crimes of violation of the home, illegal search, violation and revelation of the secrecy of correspondence; the crime against the free expression of thought; the crime against the rights of assembly, demonstration, association, complaint and request; the crime against the right to ownership; the crime against freedom of religion; and the crime against the right to equality. They are all punished with imprisonment or fine or both based on circumstances and the nature of the perpetrator.

Also in the Law of Criminal Procedure (Law No. 5 of August 1977) we will find legal guarantees for the correct exercise of human rights. The cases in which, by an imperative of justice itself, society must act in such a way that the interests of a certain person might be affected are also regulated in it.

We will find detailed regulations in judicial practice of the constitutional principle that states: "No one can be tried or sentenced except by the competent court under laws in effect before the crime and with the formalities and guarantees established" (Article 58 of the Constitution).

There is also the constitutional principle that nullifies any statement that is obtained by violation of the precept that prohibits violence or "coercion of any type against persons to force them to make a statement" (Article 58, final paragraph of the Constitution). The Law of Criminal Procedure regulates how statements of the accused must be taken (Article 160), the procedure for entering and searching public places, private residences and foreign ships or airplanes (Article 170), the procedure for examining books and documents, holding and opening written correspondence, telegraphs, and cablegraphs (Article 223), etc.

The crystallization of the Constitution and the adoption of new laws which are increasingly adapted to the requirements of building the socialist society expand the objective legal bases of socialist legality in general and human rights in particular. The mechanism that makes the rights, duties and basic principles for citizens a reality not only acts because of the reinforcement of the legal institutions but also because of the existence of the economic, social and political conditions created.

In a socialist society, this entire process is indissolubly tied to reinforcement of state and social discipline. Comrade Fidel said: "We must achieve that our people are characterized by respect for the law and for discipline."

The need to preserve observance of the laws that guarantee social discipline is an imperative of life itself in any society. Any group needs to maintain the rules of coexistence established in it.

For Marxists, social discipline originates in the organization of social work.

Lenin demonstrated this cause and effect relationship in his work "A Great Initiative." He stated: "The feudal organization of social work was based on the discipline of the whip and on the ignorance and extreme brutalization of the workers....The communist organization of social work, the first step of which is socialism, is based and will be increasingly based on the free and conscious discipline of the workers themselves who have been taken out of the yoke of landowners and capitalists.

"This new discipline does not fall out of the sky nor is it obtained with good intentions. It comes exclusively from the material conditions of large capitalist production, without which it is impossible. The carrier or vehicle of these material conditions is a certain historical class created, organized, grouped, instructed, educated and inured by large capitalism. This class is the proletariat."¹⁰

From this statement by Lenin, we can deduce that the features of the new conscious social discipline are:

The obligation of all the members of society to subordinate themselves to the norms of social coexistence (social discipline);

A high individual and class awareness that permits respect for those norms;

Voluntariness and initiative in obedience (not mere obedience of the strongest); and

The unity of desire and action of all people whom conscious discipline unites.

Socialist legality plays an important role in achieving this voluntary, conscious and obeyed social discipline.

Strict compliance with the Constitution and the laws is the work of all society, particularly the state. Article 9 of the Constitution states: "All the state organs, their leaders, officials and employees act within the limits of their respective jurisdictions and have the obligation to strictly observe socialist legality and supervise respect for it in all activities of society." It has been said, with reason, that socialist legality is a concept of great scope that includes different acceptations.

In the strict sense, it is usually considered a legal-criminal or legal-administrative responsibility. In the broadest sense, the following should be considered serious violations of law along with the commission of crimes such as "against life," "health," and "the dignity of man": unjust firing from a job; lack of fulfillment of economic plans; the production of deficient merchandise; lack of fulfillment of obligations assumed in economic contracts;

etc. Also the violation of the laws of the state, decrees and other resolutions to improve the well-being and the life of the workers and to satisfy their cultural needs should be considered violations of socialist legality.

The exercise of human rights protected by legislation is also guaranteed by the supervision by different state organs and the Central State Administration as stated by law.

The National People's Government Assembly exercises important supervisory functions of socialist legality when, by prerogative granted by the Constitution, it repeals or amends the agreements and "provisions of the local people's government organs that violate the Constitution, laws, decree-laws, decrees and other provisions dictated by a higher-level organ" or when those provisions affect the general interests of the country or other areas (Article 73, clause s, of the Constitution). They also exercise these prerogatives through the process of rendering accounts which the state and government organs must present annually, according to the Constitution and the laws (Article 73, clause q, of the Constitution).

The Council of State is also responsible for supervision of socialist legality.

Similarly, the Council of Ministers can repeal or nullify the provisions of ministers or chiefs of organisms of the Central State Administration (Article 96, clause n, of the Constitution). Nevertheless, our law of laws has especially granted the function of supervision of socialist legality to the Attorney General's Office (Article 130 of the Constitution).

This constitutional provision has its complement in Law No. 4 of 1977, "Law of Organization of the Judicial System." Its Article 106 establishes the functions of the Attorney General's Office which include:

To exhaust the legal measures to prosecute and obtain punishment of those who attack the independence and sovereignty of the state or its political and economic interests.

In the exercise of its supervisory function, to inform the superior organ of the one that has dictated the provision or resolution or carried out an act that it feels is illegal so that the appropriate measures can be adopted. The organisms that receive requests for information and other requirements from the Attorney General's Office must respond within 20 days. Otherwise, this is communicated to the superior of the corresponding official and, when appropriate, to the Council of Ministers.

To act concerning illegal acts by state organisms through legal provisions so that the violated law is reestablished without affecting any action that corresponds to the individual affected by such acts to demand real and effective recognition of the violated right in the way and form determined by law.

To take criminal action against officials who violate existing laws through their provisions when the violations committed are persecutable or to propose administrative measures to their superiors if the violation does not come under criminal procedure.

To take public action in criminal trials, according to law.

To represent the public interest in all trials in which it must intervene, according to law.

To exercise the functions that the procedural laws give it in each case.

To demand already finished cases from the corresponding courts for examination or to go to court to watch those going on.

To supervise fulfillment of criminal sentences. The attorneys general have the right and duty to visit penitential establishments to verify whether punishments are carried out as imposed.

To participate in the fight against every sign of crime, adopting the necessary measures for that effect.

To demand the necessary help from any authorities and officials for the exercise of its legal functions.

To propose to the National People's Government Assembly or the Council of State and, when appropriate, to the Council of Ministers the measures considered necessary for the most effective observance of socialist legality.

To officially verify compliance with the law in state organisms, enterprises and other offices or when information or accusations of alleged violations of the law are received.

To do any other function assigned by law.

As an expansion of the above and with the objective of facilitating the work of the Attorney General's Office, Article 107 of Law No. 4 states that the organisms of the Central State Administration and its local organs must send a copy of the resolutions dictated to the appropriate level of the Attorney General's Office because of its supervisory function. This obligation must be understood as official and does not require an express request from the Attorney General's Office. In other words, as soon as a resolution is dictated, its contents must be communicated to the attorney general at the appropriate level, among others.

Also Article 2 of the Regulation of the Attorney General's Office dated 24 March 1973 can be cited. Among other objectives of this organism, it indicates: a) to maintain and reinforce socialist legality and d) to protect the life, liberty, dignity, honor, patrimony, family relations and other legitimate rights and interests of the citizens. Thus supervision of socialist legality corresponds concretely to that office. Article 22 of this regulation states this and, within this function, we believe clause ch should be emphasized: "To attend to the accusations or complaints made by citizens concerning their allegedly injured rights, giving them the corresponding course and procedure."

Conclusions

Based on that expressed, it can be seen that strengthening the legality in general, and particularly concerning human rights, is a task that corresponds not only to the state system in its broadest sense but also to the party, the UJC, the mass and social organizations and the citizens themselves.

The Cuban state has created the necessary guarantees to insure the rights and interests of all people, to preserve socialist legality and to protect the conquests of the workers. The Attorney General's Office and even the action of the courts play an important role in this. In other words, the principles of our constitution concerning human rights, the complementary laws that guarantee their exercise and the action of the organs in charge of supervising socialist legality form a system to insure the free enjoyment by all citizens of their rights but this is not enough.

In reality, the objective pursued by society in this matter is much broader and more humane. It is not enough to punish violations of social discipline and legal order but the commission of deeds that hurt that established must be prevented. Therefore, it is necessary to appropriately educate individuals. The provisions of the Penal Code that guarantee the free exercise of rights are not rigid. The punishments set forth in it do not force the court to set a certain punishment. The punishments can be determined on a very broad scale. Depending on the characteristics, light punishments can be applied in some cases and much more severe ones in others.

In general, our laws are educational. The punishments always include reeducation with the objective that the people are trained in the laws of socialist coexistence and their obligations and responsibilities to society since, in a socialist society, personal interest is not separate from social interest.

Therefore, we form our young generations based on the principles of socialist education to convert the political, ideological and moral communist principles into personal convictions and habits of daily conduct.

The levels achieved in education, public health, social security and employment approach and in many cases surpass countries that have valuable natural resources and great economic development. These achievements that permit greater material guarantee for the effective exercise of human rights have even greater merit since they have been obtained despite being an underdeveloped country and in the midst of an economic blockade and constant aggression from the main enemy of social progress--Yankee imperialism.

The successes achieved since the revolutionary victory have been possible because, in our Fatherland, there was a true socialist revolution. Private ownership of the basic means of production has ended, the exploitation of man by man has disappeared as have production anarchy, crises and unemployment and the development of society has begun to be regulated consciously through future planning.

FOOTNOTES

1. Fidel Castro Ruz, speech given at main celebration of 25th anniversary of the attack on Moncada barracks in EDICIONES OR, Jul-Aug-Sep quarter, Havana, 1978, p 30.
2. Fidel Castro Ruz, speech given at the main celebration of the 20th anniversary of the attack on Moncada barracks in GRANMA, Havana, 28 July 1973, p 3.
3. V. I. Lenin, "Will the Bolsheviks Stay in Power?" in "Selected Works in Twelve Volumes," Vol VII, Editorial Progreso, Moscow, 1976, p 300.
4. F. Engels, "Anti-Duhring," Ediciones Pueblos Unidos, Montevideo, 1961, pp 129-130.
5. Fidel Castro Ruz, speech given at the main celebration for the 20th anniversary of the attack on Moncada barracks in EDICIONES OR, Jul-Aug-Sep quarter, Havana, 1978, p 27.
6. "Programmatic Platform" published by the DOR [Revolutionary Orientation Department] of the CC [Central Committee] of the PCC, Havana, 1976, p 101.
7. V. I. Lenin, "Socialism and Religion" in "Selected Works in Twelve Volumes," Vol III, Editorial Progreso, Moscow, 1976, p 196.
8. Fidel Castro Ruz, "Meeting with the representatives of the churches of Jamaica," 20 October 1977, in "Los pueblos abrazan la libertad y se unen" [The peoples embrace freedom and unite], Editora Politica, Havana, 1978, p 147.
9. Fidel Castro Ruz, speech closing the PCC Provincial Balance Assembly in Havana City, 2 December 1977.
10. V. I. Lenin, "A Great Initiative" in "Selected Works in Three Volumes," Vol III, Editorial Progreso, Moscow, 1961, p 241.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

1. "Atheism and religion in the socialist society" in CUADERNO DE CONFERENCIAS, DOR of the CC of the PCC.
2. Castro Ruz, Fidel, speech given at the main celebration of the 20th anniversary of the attack on Moncada barracks in GRANMA, 28 July 1973.
3. Castro Ruz, Fidel, speech opening the Las Tunas Health Complex in BOHEMIA, 20 June 1980.
4. Castro Ruz, Fidel, speech at the Fifth Congress of the National Health Workers Union in VERDE OLIVO, 17 December 1981.

5. State Committee for Statistics, "La economia cubana 1978."
6. State Committee for Statistics, "Guia estadistica 1981."
7. Penal Code of the Republic of Cuba (Law No. 21 of 1979).
8. Constitution of the Republic of Cuba.
9. "Contemporary International Law," Editorial Progreso, Moscow, 1973.
10. Annual Report of MINSAP [Ministry of Public Health], 1978.
11. Report of the Central Committee to the Second PCC Congress, Havana, 1981.
12. "Legality and legal culture in Cuba at the present stage" in REVISTA JURIDICA, No 2, published by the Attorney General's Office, 1979.
13. Electoral law (Law No. 1305 of 7 July 1976).
14. Law of Organization of the Central State Administration (Law No. 1323 of 1976).
15. Law of Criminal Procedure (Law No. 5 of 1977).
16. Social Security Law (Law No. 24 of 1979).
17. Economic and social guidelines for the 5-year period 1981-85 approved by the Second PCC Congress.
18. "Human rights and our socialist constitution" in VERDE OLIVO, No 40, 1977.
19. "Human rights: words and deeds" in BOHEMIA, 24 February 1978.
20. Miret Prieto, Pedro, speech closing the National Balance Meeting of the National Health Workers Union in GRANMA, 7 December 1979.
21. "There is no justice in the United States" in SOCIALISMO, TEORIA Y PRACTICA, June 1978.
22. GRANMA, 7 July 1979, 3 September 1980, 5 September 1980, 14 December 1981.
23. Roca, Blas, lectures and speeches in the process of implementation of the people's government organs.
24. Theses and resolutions, First PCC Congress, published by the DOR of the CC of the PCC, Havana, 1976.
25. "Road to well-being" in BOHEMIA, 6 July 1979.

7717

CSO: 3248/804

EDITORIAL DEPLORES NATIONAL WORKERS UNION 'MEDDLING'

Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 26 Feb 83 pp 4, 11

[Excerpts]

In the last year or so, Dominica has experienced some welcome industrial calm that is a credit to the country's workers, the workers representatives the Trade Unions, and of course, the business community itself.

However, it would seem to loom on the horizon that problems are ahead. We note with concern the potentially explosive situation developing at one of Dominica's most important industries - important in terms of employment, profitability and foreign exchange earnings. The situation is awkward because a normal bargaining disagreement between the Company and the Union representing the Company's workers is being exploited by another Union known for its unscrupulous and political manoeuvrings. The danger is that the new Union will endeavour to make grander and invariably irresponsible promises to DCP workers in an attempt to get their support. This, of course, will lead to the existing Union "counter-offering" with similar big promises in an effort to maintain worker support. The situation is thus fraught with potential disaster for Dominica.

We hope and pray that reason and good sense will prevail so that the present dispute between DCP and NAWU will not get out of hand. Quite frankly, without meaning to exaggerate the issue, the future of significant expansion of the industrial sector in this country may well hinge on the final outcome of the current negotiations and mediation. It is not by accident that DCP has a near perfect track record in performance and industrial relations. The proven ability of the management at all levels is well known. The Company's interest in its workers and the outstanding contribution of the Company to the Dominican community is, without doubt, appreciated and understood by many thousands of Dominicans, if not the four or five union negotiators. If the efficiency of the Company is made to suffer, then serious investors will not fail to take note.

What disturbs us more is the meddling of the National Workers Union. As we have shown in a front page report of a recent issue, that Union continues to display irresponsible behaviour and clear political manoeuvrings that must be of concern to all Dominicans, and those in authority. Indeed, in a country like Grenada, the NWU would have been severely disciplined, its publications banned, and its "Alliance" newsletter completely abolished. Yes, indeed, democracy does indeed have its weaknesses. But we must not panic, only stand firm. And that firmness may require action by a government that was elected to serve ALL the people, not five or six people who "claim" to represent some workers.

Trade Unions are often inclined to use statistics and figures to buttress their case for pay increases, cost of living allowances, etc... It is useful to quote here some other interesting statistics. Trade unions represent approximately 8% of the population. Potential workers i.e. the unemployed and the under-employed, number approximately 25% of the population. Who represents them? Certainly not the Unions who apparently do everything to discourage more investment and more job creation. In the absence of the formation of an appropriate organisation which could be an interesting possibility we would humbly suggest it is the government of the day which represents the interests of the non-working.

Moreover, based on the representation in the House of Assembly, the present government represents some 80% of the people. It is expected to act in the interest of at least that 80%. It is wrong that 80% of our people be held to ransom by 8% of the country. This is unfair and unjust. The time may be overdue for our 24% unemployed and/or the 80% of our people to actively demonstrate their disapproval of responsible Union behaviour.

CSO: 3298/461

'NEW CHRONICLE' RESPONDS TO ALLEGATIONS BY 'DRUM'

Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 26 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] The "New Chronicle" has, in its well-over seventy years of publication, never indulged in useless and meaningless wrangling--especially over issues of non-significance, involving dubious, nonchalant characters--and does not, in any way, intend to stoop to such degrading practices. However, as a result of its investigative approach to reporting, it is duty bound to acquaint the reading public with questionable developments that may, otherwise, go un-noticed. We have, in the past, fearlessly championed this cause, and may justifiably claim our deserved credit for unravelling the various plots to overthrow this present legitimate government. And, in this vein, we pledge to continue this task; fervently and daringly.

We have, over the past few weeks, tried to ignore the ridiculous allegations levelled at the NEW CHRONICLE/TROPICAL PRINTERS, by Mr. Y. M. Hamid who purports to be the independent/sole publisher of the 'DRUM' newspaper. And, we did not intend to respond to his pointless insinuations since we are aware that such tactics by Hamid only seeks free publicity for his paper. However, we have been forced to investigate certain aspects of Mr. Hamid's activities and connections, and consider the time quite appropriate to present some of the facts to the people of this country for their personal assessment and judgement.

It is gross misrepresentation of the truth for Mr. Hamid to try to have this populace believe that (a) the Drum's production is achieved exclusively on a voluntary staff basis; without cost; by freedom loving individuals; and (b) the Drum's printing is met by (i) paid advertisement, (ii) sales, and (iii) loans from individuals.

3000 copies of the Drum are printed by Original Printary, Antigua, at the cost of \$1.05 per copy; per issue (this is according to reliable information originating from Mr. Hamid himself). If we are to use the most recent issue as a basis of its advertising quantum, it becomes clear that the revenue from this area does not account for an input adequately substantive to maintain the publisher's continued operation. Assuming that Mr. Hamid, who, as we understand, travels to Antigua for the printing of each issue, manages to avoid freight charges, it is obvious that airfare further increases his

financial burdens. The Drum loses an extra .10¢ per copy which represents sales commission to newsboys and book-dealers.

A look at the last issue of the Drum (vol. 2 - No. 3; page 4) shows the omission of C. McIntyre, G. Latouche, Steve Roberts, Carlton Francis, A. Murphy, P. McIntyre, Valerie Collins and Davidson Fergus from its staff. The exclusion of Latouche, C. and P. McIntyre, Francis and Murphy is by no means accidental, nor deliberate. So far, we have discovered that two of these lads have unilaterally confiscated the sums on sales (\$190. and \$170. per person) off the \$300. they are owed as monthly salary by Hamid, while others are yet to receive a cent.

Latouche and his friends from 'DOMINICA TIMES' including Austin Bell whom Hamid has chosen to use as his scapegoat (See: Letter Section for Bell's own impression, under the caption "HAMID IS BARKING AND LYING"); went to the DRUM for on-the-spot training; since it is their intention to publish their newspaper in the very near future. Fergus, meanwhile, is an employee of the National Workers' Union.

At this juncture, the NEW CHRONICLE wishes to draw this disturbing matter to the attention of the Labour Authorities.

From Hamid's own pen, we are told that the DRUM is served by Interpress Services, Africa News and other news sources (presumably free, of course!); but what of DRUM's direct connection with WESTERN HEMISPHERE: a company registered in Dominica with its directors being Yusif M. Hamid and Curtis R. Baity, Jr.? And why, then, does Mr. Hamid continue to declare himself as the sole publisher of the DRUM when we know, as a matter of fact, that Western hemisphere Enterprises (Dominica) Limited is registered as owner and printer of the DRUM; with the intention to have its own printing facilities.

It becomes clear that once payments are made in the form of cheques, the amount is credited towards C/A WESTERN HEMISPHERE (account number 9655). What is the understanding?

We gather from the last issue of the DRUM that publication will be weekly; with a selling price of .75¢ per copy. Our knowledge of the printing business leaves us to conclude that once this paper is presented/printed on BOND 10 stationery, the DRUM will have to be subsidised by somebody; even in its 8-page format.

We believe that if not all, but most Dominicans know that the NEW CHRONICLE is a Private Company and not owned by the Bishop as Hamid would like the populace to do. If that's 'fresh' news to Hamid, then he must refer to some back issues to see the printed fact. And what is wrong with the Church running and owning its own business? Nonetheless, TROPICAL PRINTERS is positively NOT owned by the Church!

As far as this paper is concerned, the Hamid/Drum/Western Hemisphere/Dominica Association of World Affairs (since we do not know that cheques to the DRUM have been made to D.A.W.A.) affair is one that demands the immediate attention of the State's Authorities.

En passant who is this Mr. Scoone being heard of in the background?

CSO: 3298/461

USAID PACT FOR BANANA INDUSTRY ACCEPTED WITH PROVISOS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 10 Mar 83 p 14

[Article by Peter Richards]

[Excerpts]

ROSEAU, Wed., (Cana):

AFTER four months of countrywide discussion and controversy, Dominica has braved farmers' dissent and decided to accept a (EC) \$4.7 million American aid package for the ailing but vital industry.

The Eugenia Charles Government has bowed to at least one of the farmers' demands — that the quasi Government Dominica Banana Growers Association (DBGA), central clearing house for the industry, not be scrapped in favour of a new private sector company.

The farmers, at a specially convened meeting last month, had adopted a resolution urging Government to co-opt the management committee of the Association to renegotiate the agreement which has been the subject of criticism, both from the political opposition groups and the farmers.

But Prime Minister Charles has said unless the Board of the Association can identify areas of the agreement they want altered and give Government an alternative "the package will go through as is."

NEW COMPANY

The farmers said they were particularly perturbed with certain sections of the agreement signed in Roseau last September 30. They were clearly opposed to the formation of a new company to replace the existing Association to administer the affairs of the growers.

Government had sought in island-wide meetings to assure the farmers that the new company would give growers "more say in the running of the industry" but relented administration and postponed formation of the company.

"I am not prepared to force the idea of the company down the grow-

ers' throat" said Miss Charles at the meeting, adding "the growers have shown that they do not want this new company..."

"The essence of the agreement is its attempt to take the banana industry out of the hands of the farmers and Dominican people and place it under the total control of a foreign organisation, the USAID," said the Left-leaning Dominica Liberation Movement Alliance in its opposition to the agreement.

The other political parties, make up for splinter groups of the Dominica Labour Party, are also calling for a re-negotiation of the package with one — the Dominica Labour Party — submitting to the American Ambassador in Barbados, Milan Bish, counter-proposals for the survival of the industry.

The government is "determined, however, that the industry, which is in debt to the tune of (EC) \$21 million, needs the aid package from USAID which they emphasise is being given not as a loan but as a grant.

Banana growers here received 12 EC cents per pound for bananas, and officials of the industry pointed out during the meeting that an additional two cents would have been made available to growers had the agreement been accepted.

"If the farmer is to receive more, the package must be accepted."

said Mr. Alexander, pointing out that the industry had already gone beyond the crossroads.

Because of the current financial position of the industry, USIAD has to the annoyance of the farmers, indicated that all sales activities undertaken by the Association "must be made without increase in credit levels to the growers beyond that as of the date of his agreement, or must be for cash or against prepaid cess, adding "furthermore all inputs must be sold at full market value."

The growers quite openly disagreed with that aspect of the agreement and tabled resolutions seeking to get that section improved. Their main concern was that banana growers should not, Because of the present economic problems, be called upon to purchase fertilisers at market price when in the past fertilisers were given and deductions made from their pay packets.

The Government has said that it cannot agree to that demand by growers mainly because in the past, many growers had accepted fertiliser knowing that they were either not producing bananas or selling the fertilisers to other growers, or involving themselves in some form of corruption, which subsequently brought the industry further into financial problems.

BRIEFS

MARITIME BOUNDARY TALKS—Talks concerning the maritime boundaries between French and Dominican authorities are expected to continue sometime later in the year. To date, discussions on the matter, held in Fort De France, Martinique on February 17 and 18 have resulted in a definite demarkation of boundaries between Dominica and the French dependancy of Martinique. However, due to certain complexities arising as a result of the tiny islet of Marie Galante, negotiations related to Guadeloupe are expected to be of a more tedious nature since Marie Galante takes a dip into the waters of Dominica. The Dominica delegation was headed by P. M. Eugenia Charles, and included Attorney General, Ronan David, and Acting Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Mrs. Judith Garraway. The French delegation was led by Monsieur Gilbert Guillame, Director of Legal Affairs in the French Ministry of External Affairs. The delinitation mark, in respect to the Martinique agreement is on the Caribbean side. Dominica, lies approximately 30 miles from Martinique to the South and Guadeloupe to the North. Ideally, the equidistant mark (15 miles) is the accepted practice adhered to by international convention. [Text] [Roseau THE NEW CHRONICLE in English 5 Mar 83 p 1]

FRANCE ASSISTANCE--Roseau, Tues., (Cana)--Dominica has become the first country in the Eastern Caribbean to be a member of the French Fund for Aid and Co-operation (FFAC), under which it will receive training, supplies of equipment as well as technical and financial assistance for the next five years. The agreement making Dominica a member was signed in Trinidad and Tobago last week by Prime Minister Eugenia Charles and the French Ambassador to Dominica, Madame Francoise Claude la Fontaine, the government information service (GIS) announced. It said that the Fund which is set up by France, is mainly for assistance in development projects in its former colonies and that such assistance has now been extended to creole-speaking countries. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Mar 83 p 19]

CSO: 3298/461

BRIEFS

EPISCOPAL CONFERENCE DIRECTORATE--The Salvadoran Episcopal Conference has elected its 1983-1986 directorate, as follows: Monsignor Marco Rene Revelo, president; Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas, vice president; Monsignor Jose Eduardo Alvarez, treasurer; (Father Leopoldo Barreiro Gomez), secretary; Monsignor Oscar Barahona Castillo, permanent committee member. [PA241218 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 23 Mar 83]

CSO: 3248/649

GOVERNMENT LOANS TO FARMERS ANNOUNCED

Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 14

[Text] It was announced that BANDESA [National Agricultural Development Bank] granted almost a million quetzals in credit assistance to the country's small farmers, in direct support of basic cereals, diversification of crops, livestock and rural housing.

BANDESA undertook this credit assistance, amounting to 981,000 quetzals for small and medium farmers of the neediest regions of the republic, through its central offices, agencies and rural credit associations.

It was announced that of this figure, 242,420 quetzals were destined for basic cereals, such as corn, beans, rice, wheat and sorghum; 132,600 quetzals for diversification of crops such as citrus, plantains, sesame, vegetables etc.; 105,000 quetzals for other crops and 246,700 quetzals for livestock.

Other categories covered by the bank were for 191,300 quetzals rural housing, and for handicrafts 500 quetzals, with optimal results judging from the positive impact experienced among the producers in the departments affected, who have expressed their gratitude to President Rios Montt, the board of directors, offices and personnel of BANDESA.

They added that the assistance mentioned is being processed rapidly and with the lowest rates of interest following the guidelines of present policy which the government is undertaking through the Ministries of Agriculture, Livestock and Nutrition, in coordination with other public sector entities.

Finally, it was indicated that said policy is underway fundamentally to assist financially small Guatemalan farmers, and to develop the production of food for domestic consumption and export, as well as to improve living conditions in the country.

9678

CSO: 3248/579

COUNTRY SECTION

GUATEMALA

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO NETHERLANDS--Dr Hugo Argueta Figueroa was named Guatemalan ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Netherlands, with headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. [Text] [Guatemala PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 24 Feb 83 p 14] 9678

CSO: 3248/579

FRANK CAMPBELL INTERVIEWS JAGAN ON NATIONAL CRISIS

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN, TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 27 Feb, 1 Mar 83

[27 Feb 83 pp 12, 14]

[Text]

GUYANA's minority leader, Dr. Cheddi Jagan, recently spoke about the crisis facing his country, about the strengths and problems of his party and about strains in Opposition unity in Guyana. Dr. Jagan is the leader (or general secretary) of the Marxist People's Progressive Party (PPP) which was ousted from power in the 1964 general elections and which has been in the Opposition ever since.

Efforts to contact and arrange interviews with the leaders of the governing People's National Congress (PNC) and the extra-parliamentary Working People's Alliance (WPA) were, for different reasons, unsuccessful.

Following is the first part of my interview with Dr. Jagan:

CAMPBELL: I should like to begin, Dr. Jagan, by asking for your evaluation of the present situation in Guyana.

JAGAN: Well, my evaluation is that the situation is very grave. We have a serious social and economic crisis and it is getting worse year after year. And this is inevitable because we have reached the stage of a vicious circle and the Government is incapable of motivating the people.

CAMPBELL: You are speaking of a crisis in political terms, in economic terms.....?

JAGAN: Well they are inter-linked — political, economic and social. Unless, in our view, there is a political solution there will be no solution to the social and economic crisis.

CAMPBELL: How do you see the situation developing during 1983? What is your scenario, your prognosis?

JAGAN: Well, in 1983, the position is likely to be worse in terms of the sharpening of the struggle. This is because the economy did not perform so well, as was anticipated, last year and consequently there are likely to be more pressures on the working people. This will inevitably lead to the sharpening of the struggle.

We had examples of this at the beginning of this year with the bauxite strike where the workers complained bitterly about the sharp increase in the transportation fare from Kwakwani to Linden. We saw also last year where the TUC (Trades Union Congress) had a demonstration, the first since the Government came to office in 1964, based on the fact that the Government had increased electricity charges by 13 per cent.

DECLINE

The people who spoke at that meeting after the demonstration,

as you probably know, said that things were bad, that the working man could not wait any longer. With the salary he's getting, the wages he's getting, Mr. Pollydore in his statement said that the working people are forced to have simply one meal per day and children have to go to school with a cup of tea in the morning, and that means water and sugar because, generally, tea as we know it is unavailable.

As I said, those are merely symptoms of the decline in the situation. From the TUC report before the last Congress, which was put out in May — and somehow it looks as if the Government might have applied pressure and the TUC wanted to withdraw the report — the report indicate that having regard to economic conditions as they developed in 1981 and in the first half of 1982, standards of living had deteriorated by 25 per cent.

So it is clear that the situation cannot be improved upon by the Government. If anything at all, it

will be more of what has happened in that past, that is, cutting social services, further retrenchment. As you know the economy did not perform well in the bauxite sector last year and therefore revenue did not materialise.

CAMPBELL: you mention a political solution as a condition precedent to a solution of the economic and social problems. Do you accept any of the Government's explanations for the problems, such as the international economic recession?

JAGAN: Yes, we do, but the fact is that external factors are related to the situation here. In fact, at the time of the TUC demonstration on electricity charges, the PNC was picketing and it had placards saying it was the IMF's fault. We warned them about the IMF since 1978, that wherever the IMF operated the conditions of the working people deteriorated and in fact the economic situation did not improve.

So, we do appreciate the fact, and we have said so, that external factors have an impact on the situation, but that's not the only factor. The PNC would like to make it appear that that is the only factor. Unlike some others — we are not like them — they are only blaming the PNC for everything. They do not see imperialism, they do not see external factors. We say a combination of both but that the PNC is largely to be blamed for the mess that we have in this country.

CAMPBELL: What is the nature of the imperialist threat against the PNC at this stage?

CONFLICT

JAGAN: The PNC is under pressure from imperialism, number one, to dismantle the state sectors and to de-nationalise, to bring back to Guyana a dependent form of capitalism, in other words what President Reagan calls "freedom of the market." And in this regard there is conflict of interest between the PNC petit bourgeois and imperialism in that the PNC does not want to give up those sectors which are under State control. And they are also able to exercise political control. Thus they do not want to succumb totally to the pressures of imperialism.

But they are succumbing to a certain extent as we saw from the letter to the World Bank in the middle of last year, where the Government stated that it intended to take certain steps — that is to open up the economy to foreign participation, particularly in the bauxite industry, to dismantle some of the state-controlled enterprises, to sell

them, to bring more and more experts and so on along those lines.

CAMPBELL: So you are not satisfied that the PNC government is standing up to the pressures.

JAGAN: Ahh! No.... no, they are not, obviously. The first weakening was the signing of the IMF agreement in 1978 and now the IMF has been forced to withdraw because the Government has not met the IMF ceilings in successive agreements. Unlike Jamaica where the Manley Government ended the IMF agreement, here the IMF simply went out and now the pressures are coming from the World Bank.

CAMPBELL: You made a statement to the effect that any kind of arrangement with the IMF was harmful to a developing country. How would you reconcile that position with the situation, say of Grenada?

SELL OUT

JAGAN: Well, let me put it this way. I wouldn't say automatically, because it depends on the nature of the regime, the nature of the government, what kind of government it is. If it is a bourgeois-democratic government, then obviously there are going to be the conditionalities of the IMF and the World Bank to put the country in a capitalist mould. And that kind of regime will automatically sell out.

On the other hand, if you have a revolutionary-democratic or a socialist State, then obviously the pressures cannot change the course of that Government. In those cases, in fact, pressures are generally put not to give loans. For instance, the United States exerted pressures on the IMF not to give credit to Grenada, which officers of the bank had agreed to give.

CAMPBELL: But you are convinced that once the PNC established an arrangement with the IMF, that arrangement would automatically be harmful.

JAGAN: As I said, one has to look at the dialectics and see, depending on the nature of the government.

CAMPBELL: To what extent would you accept that the problems with Venezuela have had some impact on the Government in terms of expenditure and the competence of the Government in dealing with the problems facing the country?

JAGAN: Well, the Government has used the Venezuela claim to advantage: one, in improving its image overseas (by claiming) that Venezuela was attempting to pounce on it; two, to tell the people that they had to tighten their belts and not fight for wage increases

because they have to help defend the country; three, to put more money in the military and paramilitary forces and to claim that there has to be a bigger and bigger army. So in that sense the Venezuelan claim may have helped the Government to take advantage of the situation.

CAMPBELL: But you don't think that the Venezuelan problem was a genuine problem?

JAGAN: We say that we have to look at the Venezuela situation globally and in the context of what is happening in the region, that is that at one time Venezuela was going along with US policies generally.... pre the Falklands war the Venezuelan Government was supporting, for instance, the Duarte government of El Salvador. The Venezuelan Government was buying F-16 fighters, 24 of them, and the justification for that was the same as the imperialist policies of the moment, that is they had to be concerned about the Caribbean because of the US life-line.... that the Caribbean is a sea-lane vital for oil and bauxite and so on to pass.

And a Venezuelan paper was making the same rationalisation for buying the F-16s — that oil had to go to the United States, and that the life-line had to be protected and all this was directed against Cuba. Now, it is in that context that we have to see.... also apart from the domestic consumption, that is the elections coming up and the ruling party in Venezuela wanting to use

this for political purposes. we have to see it in terms of pressures exerted on Guyana at that time by the US Government also being manifested through Venezuela.

Venezuela was working virtually in accord with US policies generally. But since then, several things have happened. Burnham's

government has moved backwards. It was shown in the Falklands war, it was shown in other foreign policy issues. And so the question now is not as great it was, perhaps.

Number two, Venezuela policy has changed. After the Falklands war, Venezuela, Colombia Mexico and a few other countries have taken very strong anti-American positions.

CAMPBELL: So you never accepted the allegations about incursions and about Venezuelan overflights and so on.

JAGAN: I am not talking about those little things. I am talking about a big-scale attack as the Government was saying, that an attack was imminent and so on.

CAMPBELL: If we were to return to the domestic situation again, what would you say is the country's main political problem as distinct from the strictly economic?

JAGAN: The major political problem is that you have pseudo-democracy in Guyana, what the Canadian parliamentary team for Latin America and the Caribbean called administrative dictatorship. You have as a result a loss of people participation, grassroots participation at all levels of the society. And therefore unless this problem is solved as I said — and that is

unless there is a political solution — the economic problems cannot be solved. And the social crisis would be worse.

CAMPBELL: What is the Opposition in Guyana doing to solve that problem? What is your political agenda?

JAGAN: Our objectives are: 1. To let the people feel and know that there is a way out of the problem and that the situation is not hopeless, in other words to raise the consciousness of the people and to debunk any rightist propaganda that socialism has failed in Guyana, that nationalisation is no good, etc.

2. To work among the rank and file, the working class, so that they in turn can put pressure on their leaders to fight in their interest or to pelt them out.

3. To build up unity at the working-class level, that is the workers through their trade union, and also at the political level. And these are our major objectives at the moment. Because unless we have unity developing-consciousness, unity, and action, we cannot save this country.

(TOMORROW Dr. Jagan talks about the party's relationship with the rest of the Opposition and with the ruling PNC and evaluates Forbes Burnham's 30 years in national politics.)

THE "GUARDIAN" continues today the interview with Mr. Cheddie Jagan by FRANK CAMPBELL. The first part was carried in yesterday's Sunday Guardian.

DR. JAGAN in the first installment of our interview, disclosed his party's agenda to save Guyana as follows:

(1) Assuring the people that there is hope; (2) counteracting rightist propaganda that the Guyanese experience represents a failure for socialism; and (3) uniting the people, their traditions and their parties. The interview continues.

CAMPBELL: One has the impression that as far as the last item of that agenda is concerned — the question of unity and particularly unity among the opposition parties — that the situation has been worsening and that the relations between your party and the rest of the opposition has in fact deteriorated. Would you comment on that?

JAGAN: I wouldn't say they have deteriorated but you have to see within the politics of Guyana that: 1. Imperialism recognises that the PNC regime is tottering; secondly, that the PPP is the alternative in Guyana which obviously they do not want; and so, in this situation, not having an alternative, they are trying to build a third corps.

ELEMENTS

And some elements in the opposition are trying to use invectives and other non-rational attempts to woo our supporters away from the PPP.

CAMPBELL: Would you see the Working People's Alliance as a part of that campaign?

JAGAN: Let me say this: that in all these parties there are trends. And we cannot definitely say that one party is doing this and another party is doing that.

There are trends in all these parties — rightist trends, leftist trends. And our objectives is to try to discuss issues: What are the root causes of the problems in Guyana? 1. How are we going to deal with it?

Therefore, what are we uniting on? 2. And not only is there unity but how the unity would be achieved? In what way?

You would look at allies — what allies the Government has? What allies the opposition can have? And so forth. Therefore, we look at the tactics and the strategy also.

CAMPBELL: Dr. Jagan, you must know that there are many people in the WPA who believe that the PPP has tried to use them to get rid of the PNC with the intention of getting rid of them afterwards. How would you respond to that kind of allegation?

JAGAN: No, No! We have never had such a dream. Or we would never have helped the WPA even to grow or to give them facilities.

CAMPBELL: Do you see the WPA as the monster the PPP created?

TENDENCIES

JAGAN: No. We do not like certain tendencies, certain, rightist tendencies. And we have said so quite openly. What we are fighting for is to have a principled unity and a lasting unity.

We are not working just for tactical unity. We want a strategic unity which is going to help not just to get power but to build the country, to govern.

CAMPBELL: How optimistic are you that some of these problems within the Opposition can be resolved during 1983 or shortly after?

JAGAN: I would think, yes, that certainly in 1983... And our approach to these problems is not, just to talk at the top, with leaders, but sometimes you have to get down to the grassroots and to enter into a national debate on issues, not a debate that will just pick on personalities.

CAMPBELL: What are the main points of difference?

JAGAN: In the very beginning our party stressed that unity must be based on three principles — democracy, anti-imperialism and socialist orientation.

Some people don't want to mention the word "anti-imperialism," some do not want to support the term "socialist orientation." Now we feel that these things are essential because for us it is not simply a question of getting into power; we have to also satisfy the aspirations and needs of the people. Therefore, unless one has clearly in mind what kind of programme we want to have it's going to be difficult.

TRUE

CAMPBELL: Is there also some problem as to the various attitudes towards the PNC and the role of the PNC in national unity?

JAGAN: Well, the PNC has not responded for instance to the Guyana Council of Churches when the Guyana Council of Churches summoned all the parties.

It is true that some parties take the line that the PNC is the author of the crisis and that therefore they cannot be considered. We are not concerned with that. We are concerned with programme and policy and democracy.

CAMPBELL: If the PNC is willing to accept the programme as you present it....?

JAGAN: Along with other people, yes. We are willing to go along with all the forces, we say, who subscribe to the programme. We sit together and work out a programme along with the forces.

CAMPBELL: There have been rumours of possible talks between the PNC and the PPP and in particular that the PPP is anxious to have such talks with the PNC. How much truth is there in these rumours?

JAGAN: Well, there is no such truth in it because in fact we had to write the Catholic Standard a letter saying when they implied, when they wrote, that we were having talks, to say that this is not so. Similar views are going around by other quarters, but this is not true. The fact is the PNC, I don't think, has any inclination to have unity and solve the problems.

CAMPBELL: The PPP seems to have a kind of love-hate relationship with the Trades Union Congress. How do you see those relationships developing during 1983? And what role do you see for the TUC in the resolution of the present problems?

CONTRADICTION

JAGAN: The TUC is obviously faced with a contradiction. That is, from its own utterances, the working-class situation is deteriorating. As a working-class organisation, therefore, it should be fighting for the people, the workers, the members.

But it is controlled by the ruling party and therefore it does not move until something happens. One example of this contradiction is the recent decision to call for the rescinding of the 13 per cent increase in electricity charges and the demonstration. It is our hope that this kind of action will be strengthened this year.

CAMPBELL: Would you comment on the strength of the PPP. One gets the impression that the PPP does not have the organisational strength that it had, say in the early 1960s.

JAGAN: No, we have today in fact, better organisation than we had then. Then we had no real structure in terms of organisation.

CAMPBELL: But the membership has fallen.

JAGAN: Well, that is because of the kind of political situation we have in the country, the way the PNC operates politically — victimisation, terroristic forms of rule and so on.

People are reluctant. Let me give you an example. Let us say the Rice Producers Association was recognised as it was in the PPP time and ran the Board, and there was democratic election. The farmers will vote for the RPA which is associated with the PPP.

But ask the farmers to lift up a picket. He is reluctant to do so because he is then identified, therefore he wouldn't get machines, he wouldn't get fertilisers, he wouldn't get loans and so on.

So that is what I mean by the kind of terroristic rule. Therefore you do not see the kind of open support as when the PPP was in government.

[1 Mar 83 p 12]

[Text] THE "GUARDIAN" today continues the interview with Mr. Cheddie Jagan by MR. FRANK CAMPBELL. The second part was carried in yesterday's "Guardian."

CAMPBELL: Some people believe there is no real alternative, between the PNC and the PPP in terms of ideology, in terms of attitude to constitutional matters, or in terms of political attitudes.

JAGAN: No, there is a big difference between the PPP and the PNC. Number one: Ideologically we do not talk about cooperative socialism. We talk about scientific socialism, Marxism, Leninism. Number 2: We take a fundamental attitude on basic democracy. You do not have that in the PNC. You have bureaucratic rule, rule from above, more or less from management from the top.

As regards domestic policies, too, we feel that the State must play a dominant role unlike the PNC which says the co-operative must become the dominant sector.

We also feel that for development to take place in a country there must be close relationships with the socialist countries and with the revolutionary democratic states in the Third World.

Otherwise, you can go to dependent capitalism like the countries of Latin America. Therefore, these are basic differences between us and the PNC.

CAMPBELL: What is your attitude towards the Westminster form of constitutional democracy?

JAGAN: Well I would subscribe to the Westminster form of democracy. However I wouldn't say that this is the method which must be applicable everywhere because some people are using that to hammer the revolutionary democratic Grenada or even Suriname right now.

Therefore we take each situation on its own and deal with it in that way. For example, we defend the government in Grenada and Nicaragua even though for United States imperialism these are not democratic regimes.

CAMPBELL: There was some consternation inside and outside of Guyana about your statement on Suriname because many people see recent developments as a manifestation of summary rule, as action without due process; and they see the things happening there as worse than the things you complain about in Guyana. How would you comment on that?

JAGAN: First of all, I would like to make an analogy. During the Caricom meeting, five newspapers carried--I didn't see them but I heard--big statements putting side by side Guyana and Grenada, saying both are dictatorships.

Well for us there is a big difference between Grenada or what we call revolutionary democracy and what the Canadians call administrative dictatorship in Guyana.

There is a vast difference between them. And so far as our stand on Suriname is concerned, you have to take each country and look at it on its own.

The Suriname situation obviously is not like bourgeois democracy in England, or in Holland or in the United States. The rules are different.

If the counter-revolutionaries had taken power those guys' heads would have gone just the same. That is the situation.

What I am saying therefore: We are not saying that there should be no due process of law and all that. What we are saying is that attempts are being made to overthrow a revolutionary democratic government and plots are hatched.

Over 100 people, nearly 200 people, were killed in Guyana when the CIA was intervening. And one has to look at the situation totally and not judge only by our own standards. We have to take each country and look at it on its own.

Self Interest

CAMPBELL: As you know this year President Burnham is celebrating his 60th birthday and I think his 30th year of constitutional service. How would you evaluate his work during those 30 years?

JAGAN: Well, I would say I would evaluate it as a role of self-interest and betrayal which has resulted in the kind of calamitous situation that we have in Guyana--that is betrayal of the kind of ideals which he held when he was with us in 1953.

CAMPBELL: So you think his finest hour was when he was with you in the PPP.

JAGAN: Of course.

CAMPBELL: Could you say some more about your scenario for Guyana in 1983? Exactly what do you think would happen? Do you see the government being dissolved or do you foresee violence, or the government resigning, or do you see the government finding a way out of the dilemma?

JAGAN: No, the government cannot find a way out of the dilemma. Impossible. And knowing Burnham, knowing him whole nature, he is going to retreat more and more. He hasn't got the political guts to stand up to imperialism.

If he had, the problem could have been solved in Guyana because Guyana hasn't got a rightist opposition, it has a left alternative government.

However he can't change. It's Burnham's nature. He cannot change: 1955 showed that very well. In a time of crisis, he retreated.

Number 2 point, they are not going to relinquish power. People don't relinquish power--people like them don't relinquish power. Thirdly the people would have to struggle to get the kind of power, people's power, that they want.

CAMPBELL: What is the nature of the struggle, as you see it?

Struggle

JAGAN: The nature of the struggle takes various forms. Mass struggle. We always put emphasis on mass demonstration, strikes, picketing--combinations of all these activities, as we saw in Saint Lucia, as we saw in Dominica where the Governments were brought down by the people, as we saw in Iran where the Government of the Shah, with big military forces, was brought down.

CAMPBELL: How optimistic are you that after 28 years the PNC and PPP might be able to work together again.

JAGAN: I don't have a trace of optimism where that is concerned. The PNC went through a metamorphosis--that is as a party it was a rightist collaboration, that is the right wing of the PPP and the UDP (United Democratic Party then led by John Carter, now High Commissioner of Jamaica); that was the PNC in 1957.

But for its own subjective reasons it went and took anti-imperialist positions. But unfortunately the state has been used to develop the new PNC monster and the character of the PNC has in fact changed from petit bourgeois to bourgeois to a parasitic bourgeois class.

And therefore that party will not any longer want to come along with the PPP along the lines we are talking about--that is democracy, anti-imperialism socialist orientation, no discrimination, no corruption, no elitist life styles and so on.

CAMPBELL: So the next phase must be a PPP Government or perhaps a national government.

JAGAN: Even if the PPP wins--and it can win in a free and fair election--the PPP will still want to have a broad-based government.

Support

CAMPBELL: How strong are the SPA and the other Opposition Parties in terms of popular support?

JAGAN: I don't think that they have very much popular support. They represent certain strata in society and we think that is important because we are seeking to build unity of the working class, the peasantry, the intelligentsia, small businessman, the patriotic capitalists.

So even if the parties speak for any of those forces and they are relatively small, they still can't bring forces in a front which are necessary at the moment to have harmony and to put all their forces together and to develop the country.

CAMPBELL: What kind of future do you see, both in mediate and immediate terms, for Caricom as a regional institution and also as a number of individual countries?

JAGAN: There are some positive aspects in Caricom. For instance we saw where the CDB refused to accept a loan from the Americans when they applied conditions on the loan that none was to be disbursed to Grenada.

Number 2, we saw recently where the Caricom Summit did not get along with the kind of pressure against Grenada. I am not speaking legalistically now.

Legally, they couldn't do anything but politically they could move to isolate if not expel Grenada from Caricom. That failed.

I think those pressures on the politicians are really what is coming from the grassroots--the people's aspirations.

On the other hand, we have to see the other side of it and that is that in the condition of grave economic crisis--balance of payments problems and so on--petit bourgeois politicians are unlikely to take the revolutionary course.

Wiles

They are more likely to make a deal with imperialism and therefore succumb to the wiles of imperialism to fragment and to break up whatever little unity there is within Caricom.

We saw it recently in the OECS where a week before the summit meeting was to be held in Barbados, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, Dominica and Antigua agreed to set up a defence force outside the organisations of the OECS and excluding Grenada.

Obviously this is imperialism manoeuvring in that area. These politicians unfortunately are looking for hand outs because these are going to keep them in power.

CAMPBELL: And of course you see the Caribbean Basin Initiative within this context.

JAGAN: Of course, right. In other words, as they said, they would have bilateral discussions with the Government and depending on how they move, how they retreat, they would get money. So, as I said, there are these negative and positive trends within Caricom. And obviously we have to fight to strengthen the positive trends.

CONT'D TOMORROW

[Editor's Note: No continuation of the interview was found in available subsequent issues of the TRINIDAD GUARDIAN for 2 and 3 March 1983.]

CS0: 3298/432

BRIEFS

CALL FOR WHEAT IMPORTS--GEORGETOWN, Tues., (Cana)--A WEEKLY paper published by the Roman Catholic Church here has called on the Guyana Government to lift a ban on wheat imports, saying it had forced bakeries to close and coupled with curbs on importation of other foodstuff had reduced nutritional levels. In an editorial the "Catholic Standard" said the banning of apples, pears and grapes was understandable, but the "decision on the other hand to stop importing wheat for making flour is tragic." The Government imposed a ban on a range of foodstuffs last year in the face of a foreign exchange shortage. "Grave hardship has been imposed on the Guyanese people unnecessarily, and no apparent advantage accrues by removing from their accustomed diet such basic food items as bread and roti," the paper said. It added: "Nutritionally, the move has led to vitamin-b deficiency, causing beri beri." The "Catholic Standard" argued that economically the ban on some imports made nonsense as more foreign exchange could have been saved by exporting rice and importing wheat. It said that a "10,000 mill had been forced out of flour production since March. [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 2 Mar 83 p 6]

CSO: 3298/432

TEXT OF SEAGA'S SPEECH TO NEW DELHI NONALIGNED SUMMIT

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 20 Mar 83 pp 20, 21

[Text] *Says Prime Minister Seaga to the Non-Aligned Summit in New Delhi on Wednesday, March 9. Following is the text of his speech.*

"MADAME CHAIRMAN,

My visit to your country to attend this important Seventh Summit Conference of Heads of State or Government of Non-Aligned countries is for me a pleasure and special privilege. It has afforded me the opportunity for the first time since I assumed duties as Prime Minister of Jamaica, to participate in a conference of the Non-aligned Movement.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation through you the Government and people of India for the warm kind-hearted hospitality which has been shown me and the entire Jamaican delegation since our arrival in New Delhi.

Madame Chairman, Jamaica regards the choice of New Delhi as the alternative venue for the convening of the Seventh Non-Aligned Summit Conference as fitting for a country which is not only a founding member of the Movement, but whose leadership has consistently demonstrated an unshakeable commitment to the goals of Non-alignment. I should also like to commend the Government of India for successfully organizing and preparing this Summit Conference at such short notice.

At this time, when the world's problems have assumed such alarming dimensions, it is both symbolic and appropriate that we should be meeting in this great country of India, where the power of the idea has been demonstrated by so many transcendental figures — from Krishna and Buddha to Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru. For now, more than ever, we need

the force of NEW ideas to lead us to NEW solutions.



In congratulating you on your unanimous election to the chairmanship of the meeting, I wish to assure you that the Jamaican delegation reposes great confidence in your abilities to guide the deliberations of the conference to a constructive and fruitful outcome. In this respect your inspiring address has provided us with a relevant theme and a most suitable frame of reference which should guide our deliberations at this Summit.

It would be remiss of me not to extend our most sincere gratitude to the government of Iraq for graciously agreeing to have the venue of the Summit transferred from Baghdad. This act of selflessness and statesmanlike behaviour deserves our congratulations, particularly as the decision was taken in the

interest of preserving the unity and solidarity of the movement.

In reflecting on the specific issues before us, it is evident that this Summit is being held under the most difficult and severe international political and economic circumstances. Since the last Summit meeting in Havana in 1979, and particularly over the past year and a half, the international situation has deteriorated alarmingly. There is a frenzied spiralling of the arms race, an increase of great power rivalry, continued military intervention and occupation, and the use or threat of the use of force against the sovereignty, political independence and territorial integrity of states.

Within this context it should therefore be clearly realized that the Non-Aligned countries have to alternative in the defence of their independence and sovereignty but to preserve and strengthen their unity and solidarity and to resolutely reject any attempts to divert the movement from its principles and objectives.

Jamaica is firmly of the view that the present challenges and difficulties cannot be met by despair and disillusion, but should rather be squarely confronted by a collective will of positive commitment to the theme of "Unity in Diversity" and by a faithful reaffirmation of the basic principles and objectives of the policy of Non-Alignment, which we as members of this movement are pledged to uphold and pursue.

It is indeed a tragic and cruel irony that it is the developing countries, whose economies are being ravaged by the effects of the global economic recession, which are the main focal points of conflict and tension in Central America, the Middle East, Southern Africa and South East Asia.

My Government is increasingly concerned and alarmed over the current escalation of tensions in Central America. Against a background of deep-rooted social and economic ills the region has attracted competing ideological conflicts which have resulted in the introduction of attempted military solutions. This has created an unstable environment which has inevitably delayed the social and economic development which is so badly needed. It is our fervent hope that the present destructive tensions can be reduced so that these countries may be enabled to tackle their development on a stable basis.

The fact that the number of members of our Movement from the Latin American and Caribbean Region increases with each Summit underscores our faith in the Movement as a dynamic force in international affairs; and I would like to specially welcome the three new members from Latin America and the Caribbean — Bahamas, Barbados and Colombia.

Another area of concern to us is the Middle East. My Government believes that no lasting peace and security in the area can be possible unless the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people to statehood are realized. Equally, we maintain that all states in the area are entitled to exist within their internationally recognised borders. We therefore welcome the convening of the U.N. Conference on Palestine later this year which should provide an important opportunity to come to grips with this tragic and dangerous problem.

In this context I wish to refer to the unhappy situation that currently prevails in Lebanon whose territory has been invaded by Israel and still remains under occupation by foreign forces. This meeting must call for the withdrawal of all foreign forces, and use all the influence of our Movement to enable the government of Lebanon to restore its exclusive authority throughout the entire country.

We are deeply grieved at the fact that the conflict between Iran and Iraq — two members of the Movement — continues unabated. We hope that new initiatives will emerge from this Summit, which will bring hostilities to an end.

Jamaica continues to be gravely concerned that in Southern Africa the vestiges of Colonialism, racism and apartheid stubbornly persist.

The Government and people of Jamaica remain undaunted in our support for the courageous struggles of the people of Southern Africa and strongly condemn the acts of aggression by the racist South African regime against the neighbouring states of Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho and other frontline states, which have resulted in considerable loss of life and property in these countries.

We also regret that South Africa has been allowed to frustrate the legitimate aspirations of the people of Namibia for self-determination and independence, by its illegal occupation of that territory.

We are aware that the racist regime has been desperately attempting to break out of its international isolation

and to regain acceptance and respectability in the eyes of the international community.

This is in itself incontrovertible proof that sanctions, if vigorously and inexorably applied by the international community, can help to put pressure on the South African regime to change its abhorrent policies. We are therefore convinced that the time is ripe to rigorously apply, rather than reduce, sanctions against South Africa.

Jamaica is deeply disturbed over the continued presence of foreign military forces in Afghanistan in persistent defiance of the will of the international community, thus frustrating any attempts which have been made so far to arrive at a political solution to the crisis. I believe it is incumbent on us to adopt a more forthright and unequivocal position on this issue, and to call for the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet Troops from that country.

Similarly, the Kampuchean problem remains unsolved, and the presence of foreign forces in that country remains as one of the major obstacles to the maintenance of peace and stability in the region of South East Asia. Jamaica reiterates its call for a withdrawal of all foreign forces from Kampuchea, so that the United Nations-assisted efforts towards a political settlement of the issues, and to contain the flow of refugees from that country, can be realised without undue delays.

One of the most fundamental issues of pressing concern to the world community at large today is that of disarmament. There exists a need for a far greater awareness of the fact that what is at stake is the very survival of humanity, particularly as the world today possesses a destructive capacity equivalent to more than 100 million Hiroshima bombs, and especially in view of the fact that the arms race is already imposing new unsupportable economic costs on the world as a whole.

It is, therefore, within this context that Jamaica welcomes the initiation of talks between the major powers on intermediate range nuclear missiles, as well as the commencement of strategic arms reduction talks. We urge both sides to approach these talks in a constructive spirit, with a view to adopting concrete measures towards a cessation of the nuclear arms race and the reduction of existing stocks of nuclear weapons as part of the total effort to achieve disarmament.

One of the most constant rays of hope on the bleak horizon of global inter-relationships over the last several years has been the process — long and arduous at times — which culminated in the recent adoption and signing of the U.N. convention on the Law of the Sea.

This convention is based on a number of fundamental principles which we believe to be of cardinal importance: The concept that the resources of the deep seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction are the common heritage of mankind; the concept that all aspects of ocean use should be the subject of an international regime — these are principles by which mankind seeks to come to terms with the fact that the use of two-thirds of the surface of our planet simply cannot be left to unco-ordinate and uncontrolled exploitation.

We therefore regard the adoption of this Convention as an historic achievement; and we take special pride in the fact that several non-aligned countries played very important roles in bringing it to a conclusion.

I appeal to all states who have not yet signed the convention to do so now, and urge that we must do everything possible to expedite the process of ratification so that it may enter into force as soon as possible. In this context I also urge on this gathering the importance of active participation in the work of the Preparatory Commission which commences its work in Kingston next Tuesday.

I now want to turn to economic issues which must be of grave concern to us all.

This is a most critical moment in the history of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Movement has historically played a dynamic and catalytic role in charting the philosophical and conceptual course of the developing countries with regard to the discussions and negotiations on the international economic system. IT IS NOW TIME TO ADOPT A MORE DIRECT AND PRAGMATIC APPROACH. The Movement must now concern itself with achieving certain short-term objectives to avert a looming global economic disaster while it continues to pursue the longer-term objectives it has espoused.

This Summit is taking place against the background of a dismal global situation — the worst the world has experienced in 50 years.

It is not necessary for me to recite the grim statistics with which we are all familiar. But certain features of the current situation are worthy of em-

phases. Preliminary estimates have indicated that the total debt of developing countries has doubled in the last four years to U.S.\$626 billion at the end of 1982, and debt-service payments more than doubled in the same period to U.S.\$131 billion.

Developing country debt is also feeding on itself. A large proportion of maturing debts are being covered by new debts and the accumulated interest payments are growing so great that in many countries two-thirds of the loans received in net-terms are being allocated to repay old debts.

A principal contributory factor to the present imbalance in the international financial system has been the sharp deterioration in the terms of trade of the non-oil developing countries, from the mid-1970s onward. Commodity prices are at their lowest level since World War II. Even oil has now fallen victim to the sharp decline in commodity prices.

Added to all this has been the equally sharp decline in demand in the developing countries as a result of the recession which began in 1980, the steep, unprecedented rise in interest rates after 1979 and associated fluctuations in exchange rates. These, together with increasing Protectionist policies in the developed countries, have led to 1982 being the first year of decline in global trade in more than 20 years.

All these factors are clearly reflected in the alarming increase in the current account deficits of the non-oil developing countries - from US\$10 billion in 1972 to US \$30 billion in 1978, more than doubling in a mere 3 years to US \$70 billion in 1981.

This is in fact the bottom line of the crisis in economic terms as the developing world under this grim momentum finds itself on a collision course with bankruptcy.

The developing world cannot afford to wait for the adjustment process now being undertaken in the industrial economies to continue at the present slow pace without demanding that new policies be introduced to balance the deflationary strategies being adopted, and to contain a chain reaction that is even now threatening the international payment system and the fragile economies of the developing countries.

We have little cushion to rest on while the lengthy process of recovery takes its slow course. If the few sparks of recovery now beginning to glow in

the industrial countries are merely to flicker into a gradual recovery, a good part of the world will slip into darkness while waiting for the lights to come on. If that transpires, when we meet again in this forum the world economy may well have become a dying star, shrinking upon itself until it extinguishes all light.

I need hardly add that the political implications of this scenario are as explosive as any which confront us today.

We must therefore now focus our attention on an urgent challenge and responsibility, which will require us to adjust our agenda for action to new priorities.

It has often been said that this recession is like no previous one. It is both a consequence of the policies of the past and an effect of the economic engineering of the present. But even as we all seek longer-term solutions to the deep structural imbalances which are at the root of the current situation, the immediate question which now faces us is: Who will pull us out of this recession before we all collapse?

In past cycles of global recession it is the economy of the United States of America that was the locomotive. But for this to be the case today, the U.S. economy would have to move at a pace that is much faster than current signs indicate, or policies predicate. There is no evidence that this momentum will be advanced fast enough to meet the urgent needs of the developing world.

What then are the alternatives? Can they be found within the industrial economies? We must certainly urge them to look.

It may be that more than one locomotive is needed to push and pull the world economy simultaneously so as to generate effective forward movement. Within the OECD group, for example, Europe and Japan have a combined GNP - at 1980 market prices - of US \$4377 billion, nearly twice that of the United States at US\$2582 billion. Between them Europe and Japan could, by acting together, effect policies that could do much to pull the world economy out of stagnation. Certainly, the resource base is present. If anything is lacking it can only be the ability to mobilise a concerted political will.

Another alternative is to stimulate the economies of the developing countries directly, and a convenient device to do so is the allocation of additional special drawing rights by the International Monetary Fund. This mechanism is in itself a potentially powerful third locomotive which is already on the rails

but on a side-track which is inadequately used.

This is a practical measure because the mechanism already exists. All that is required is the political will on behalf of the funding sources. Increasing SDR allocations will give an immediate boost to the reserve position of developing countries, which has seriously declined at the same time that credit has contracted.

More significantly, SDR's can stimulate world trade without refuelling inflation, if allocated with appropriate conditionalities. I emphasise this, for merely increasing liquidity to satisfy immediate needs without a carefully designed strategy, would surely return us to renewed inflation and renewed recession.

We must not allow ourselves the complacency of waiting on the traditional U.S. locomotive to solve our problems. We must urge the industrial countries which meet in summit in Williamsburg in May to go prepared to say what Europe and Japan as a second thrust can do.

Neither must we allow ourselves the further complacency of waiting for a new industrial momentum to grow from a second thrust. We must direct our own political will to galvanize urgent action by the IMF to be the centrepiece of the world economic rescue package. For it alone has the ready-made mechanism (the SDR's) able and available to immediately and effectively increase liquidity and to put that liquidity to work constructively.

I make this proposal not claiming exclusivity; indeed it was the subject of the recent St. Lucia Summit of Commonwealth Western Hemisphere countries. It recommends itself on the basis of convenience and ease of implementation for urgent action.

Nonetheless, other constructive thoughts may arise from the deliberations of this summit. What is being sought is a solution - practical and prompt. Whatever that solution may be - the emergency issue of SDR's or some other - one thing is certain so critical is the problem, so urgent the need, that nothing less than the issue of an extraordinary declaration of New Delhi separate from the communique will suffice to stamp the imprimatur of this Summit indelibly on the consciousness of the world.

Areas of intensified political action to generate a new economic momentum will have little basis of acceptance by others if we ourselves do not perceive a new perspective for the Third World for

the immediate future to emerge as another powerful force able to effectively assist in the pull and the push of recovery.

The North-South dialogue has been deadlocked in frustration. Attempts to revive it should be given the priority necessary to treat new dialogue as an important but medium-term goal. Nor should its revival overlook the more immediate gains of the South-South Dialogue.

It is highly instructive, for example, that the level of trade among countries of the North accounts for roughly 50% of world trade in 1980, while that among countries of the South amount to only 7%. Based on present patterns, there is unlikely to be any significant change in this phenomenon over the next decade, unless we conspire to raise our own level of inter-trading activity, commercial and development banking and transportation linkages on a South-South basis. In this connection the establishment of a bank for developing countries discussed in Jamaica last year April is a test of our intent and a measure of our commitment.

The lack of liquidity which is doing such harm to developing countries is aggravated by the attitude of commercial banks who have reacted to the payments crises affecting some developing countries by refusing to extend credit to others. The backlash created by defaults is therefore exerting an additional negative pressure on the weak spots in the world economy.

It is clear that if the banks continue with this policy they will precipitate the very collapse of the international payments system that they are trying to avoid and immerse themselves in a crisis of their own making. What began as a fail-safe policy of the banks is thus guaranteed to self-destruct.

One workable approach is for the World Bank and the IMF to examine the possibility of working in a co-financing basis with the commercial banks on a serious and sensible programme of long-term re-financing of debts rather than continuing three-year roll-overs that merely postpone the problem and set adrift both the banks and the debtor countries in a sea of insecurity.

There is a scenario evolving that is deeply disturbing and that flies in the face of reason. It is one of continuing collapse on the part of various developing economies which are then temporarily propped up by short-term rescue operations. This is a self-perpetuating cycle requiring us to lurch without a

sense of direction from crisis to crisis. It is the scenario of the rest of this decade at least unless a new perspective emerges to support longer-term bank credits. If not, we will spend the decade dancing in a life-boat.

Even as we reconsider our strategies for the global negotiations we are confronted by the urgent realities of the present situation. It is to this that we should now turn the best of our energies. We need a practical assessment of the immediate problem and the full force of the Non-Aligned Movement brought to bear on achieving immediate relief to our battered economies, such as can come only from early expansion of liquidity.

The world economy is at a dangerous crossroads. Where it goes next depends on the direction of our own leadership as well as that of the developed world.

The Non-Aligned Movement has an historic opportunity to lead not only in a definition of the problem - but more important - in a constructive contribution to its solution.

It must be clear that what we are seeking is not an abandonment or a dilution of the adjustment process in the

industrial economies but that these processes now take into account the urgency of wider considerations which, if not attended to, may kill the patient while attempting to cure the disease.

Madame Chairman, I recall that thirty-five years ago Jawaharlal spoke of the times in the following words: "We live in an age of crisis, one crisis follows another, and even when there is some kind of peace, it is a troubled peace with fear of war and preparation for war."

Those words have remained prophetic as a definition of our age. We must never relax our vigilance or our quest for just solutions. But we must also have faith in our capacity to rise above fear. Let us also remember that this very movement is a triumphant verification of our instinct to direct the world to those things which bring men together, rather than keep them apart.

We should also recall some other words of Nehru: "Let us," he said, "try to get rid of fear, and base our thoughts and actions on what is essentially right and moral, and then gradually the crisis of the spirit will be resolved, the dark clouds that surround us may lift and the way to the evolution of world order based on freedom will be clear."

We have little cushion to rest on while the lengthy process of recovery takes its slow course. If the few sparks of recovery now beginning to glow in the industrial countries are merely to flicker into a gradual recovery, a good part of the world will slip into darkness while waiting for the lights to come on.

'This is a most critical moment in the history of the Non-Aligned Movement...The Movement must now concern itself with achieving certain short-term objectives to avert a looming global economic disaster while it continues to pursue the long-term objectives it has espoused.'

PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS, GOVERNMENT STALLED IN WAGE TALKS

Suspension of Negotiations

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Mar 83 p 1

[Text]

WITH CRIES OF 'SICK -OUT' ringing from the floor, the Police Federation at an emergency meeting yesterday unanimously agreed to take "positive action" beginning Thursday, and to continue "the positive action" until the Government meets with the Federation's team to commence wage and fringe benefit negotiations.

A resolution to this effect stated also that the meeting was taking "positive action" in the wake of a "breach and total insult to the collective bargaining process by "management" (Government).

The resolution which was read to tumultuous expressions of acceptance from Federation delegates from across the island, gathered at the Federation's headquarters on East Street in Kingston, referred to the police being dissatisfied with how they were treated in connection with their claim by the Prime Minister, the Rt. Hon. Edward Seaga; the Minister of Labour and the Public Service, the Hon. J.A.G. Smith, and Attorney General and Minister of National Security and Justice, the Hon. Winston Spaulding.

Mr. Smith and Mr. Spaulding had failed to respond to the claim submitted by the Federation (on December 2 on

behalf of the close to 7,000 rank and file members), the resolution said.

Mr. Seaga, whose intervention was sought, had treated communication from the Federation with "the same negative response as the other Ministers," the resolution said. Mr. Spaulding's intervention also had been sought on February 18, to get the negotiations started, "as something was blowing in the wind."

This after a 14-day ultimatum served on Mr. Smith on January 20, for the negotiations to begin, all of which brought no reply. Federation Secretary Corporal Claude Samuels told the meeting.

Police Sick-Out

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 83 pp 1,17

[Excerpt]

THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR and the Public Service has suspended direct negotiations

with the five unions representing various categories of workers in the public sector pending a review of the current situation and the receipt of "further guidance" from the Cabinet.

In a letter to the unions yesterday, the Minister, the Hon J. A. G. Smith, said it was impractical to negotiate within the next seven days as called for by the unions.

The five unions representing workers, the BITU, NWU, TUC, JUPOPE and JALGO, had written to the Minister on Monday, March 14, urging him to resume negotiations on a new two-year contract within seven days. The unions said then that the last meeting to discuss a new collective agreement for unionised public sector workers should have been held on February 25 but was postponed at the request of the Minister.

The unions said the workers have become "extremely restive" and they were calling on the Minister to continue negotiations within seven days, failing which the Ministry should hold itself responsible for any action taken.

In reacting to the ultimatum, the Minister yesterday said that it was impractical to negotiate in seven days. He said that the Ministry had suspended

temporarily "direct negotiations with all sectors of the public service pending a review of the current situation and the receipt of further guidance from Cabinet."

According to a JIS release the Minister explained that his Ministry considered the matter to be of "sufficient gravity and seriousness" to be taking the course decided on. He expressed the hope that the unions would see the wisdom of similarly suspending any consideration of any action that might jeopardize the successful outcome of the negotiations.

The Jamaica Civil Service Association which is also negotiating with the government could not be contacted yesterday for comment on the new development, but the *Gleaner* learnt that the suspension of negotiations between the Ministry and the unions also affects that body.

HOTELIERS SPOTLIGHT DEFICIENCIES IN PARALLEL MARKET SYSTEM

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 18 Mar 83 pp 10, 15

[Article by Margaret Morris]

[Text]

This is an actual case. A tourist, observing the sign in the arrival lounge dutifully exchanges all his foreign currency at the airport. At his hotel he attempts to pay for food and drink in Jamaican dollars. The hotel cannot accept them.

Disgruntled, he returns to the airport, and tries to change his money back to U.S. dollars. The bank explains that he cannot do this until he is leaving the island, and that the maximum he can change then is J\$200. He tries the bank in town. And is told that they cannot sell him U.S. dollars at the parallel market rate unless he is an approved importer. So he returns to the hotel and raises hell. Reluctantly, they agree to accept his Jamaican dollars. So he is able to eat and drink there.

Imagine that you are a tourist with U.S. dollars to change. The banks will give you approximately \$2.70 Jamaican for your U.S. dollar. The shops will give you \$2.50 upwards. Street vendors and hustlers will offer you \$3.00. And your hotel will give \$1.75. No, you don't have to be a genius to perceive that the parallel system, as conceived at present, is a public relations nightmare for hoteliers. And the latest regulation has actually made things worse.

Hotels have now been advised that if a tourist adamantly refuses to pay in foreign exchange, his Jamaican dollars can be accepted, but only if his bill which is in U.S. dollars is converted to Jamaican at the parallel rate.

One hotelier told the Gleaner: "The General Manager just

doesn't have the time to stand in the lobby all day explaining the system to the guests. And they won't believe the line staff."

This credibility problem is one that some hoteliers believe will have a negative effect on the industry in the long term, as has happened in Mexico. How do you persuade a tourist that it is fair to price a meal U.S.\$10, collect as the equivalent J\$27 from him, but only charge a local resident J\$17.50 for the same item? And how do you reconcile the discrepancy in your accounting system? It can even be argued that the current parallel system is counter-productive because those who generate most foreign exchange benefit least: the hotels, the car rental firms, the In Bond shops are required to lodge their revenue at the official rate, but everybody else is allowed to sell at the parallel rate and (as the bank advertisement says) "no questions asked." This, surely, is the apotheosis of the double standard.

Reduction

Hoteliers say that the new systems will reduce their foreign exchange lodgements. First, because of the fall off in food and beverage business the regulation that the hotel must collect in foreign currency, or, in dire emergencies, at the parallel rate in Jamaican, automatically raises their prices vis a vis outside restaurants and snack bars where literally "anything goes".

Second, because tourists no longer change their travellers cheques at the hotel. For some 15 years the hotels, as official agents of the Bank of Jamaica

have been providing this service and lodging the proceeds. Now that the new regulations have denied them the privilege of offering the parallel market rate, the volume of cheques changed has been reduced to a trickle, and the hotel's foreign exchange lodgements reduced likewise.

Nowadays, hotels get a quota for goods that can be imported at the official rate of exchange. Above their quota they have to pay at parallel market rates. The first quota for this year was based on the individual hotel's foreign exchange lodgements for the first three months of 1982. The next quota will be based on the foreign exchange lodgements for the first three months of 1982. The next quota will be based on the foreign exchange lodgements for the first three months of 1983 i.e. 12% of the total. Reduced foreign exchange lodgements mean reduced quotas, mean increased outlay at parallel rates and thus increased costs. This could be a body blow to the industry.

Perhaps the government perceives this system as an incentive (a stick, certainly not a carrot) to get the hotels to lodge more foreign exchange. The Minister of Tourism has made reference to the fact that in the past some hotels have been known to siphon off foreign exchange. Too true. However, abuses like this are only possible when government supervision is lax. To penalize the hotel industry indiscriminately because government was, (or is?) inefficient will increase, not solve, this particular problem.

New low

Recent intemperate statements by the Minister of Tourism suggest that his relationship with the hoteliers has hit a new low. He has been provoked into calling them 'unpatriotic', and has attacked the leadership of the JHTA, because they have criticized, and persist in criticising certain aspects of the parallel market system in relation to their business. This bodes ill for the tourist industry. The leadership of the JHTA consists of experienced and responsible professionals. Their objections and criticisms have merit and deserve careful consideration.

The art of handling balky customers with kid gloves is, after all, one of the tricks of the hotel trade. Interviews with some influential members of the hotel industry rapidly convinced me that the hoteliers had no wish to pick a fight with the Minister and have no wish to prolong it. However, they do have several legitimate concerns which are being ignored.

The hoteliers are not against the parallel market; in fact they recommended legitimising it as long ago as July, 1982, but they are adamant about its deficiencies. They have formulated a

number of recommendations to correct these. They include:

1. Improved advertisement and public relations about the parallel market system. Concise and simply worded instructions should be printed and distributed in aircraft en route to Jamaica. This to include the information that meals in hotels, car rentals, and in-bond shopping all require foreign exchange, and the recommendation that sufficient money should be changed into Jamaican for shopping, taxis, etc.

2. Hotels must be allowed to change money at a rate just slightly below the prevailing parallel market bank rate. A special form to be used, a copy of which would be sent to the BOJ. The money from such transactions to be lodged in a special account in the bank. One obvious advantage of this is that it would relieve tourists of the necessity of queuing for long periods at the banks while hustlers work the queues offering black market rates.

3. Hotel restaurants should have their menus priced in one currency only, either U.S. or J dollars, and offer the same rate of exchange as that given when changing travellers cheques, i.e. a rate just slightly below the parallel market bank rate.

4. Hotels should be allowed to lodge food and beverage revenue at the parallel market exchange rate, not the official rate. This would allow the hotel restaurants to reduce their U.S. \$ prices by approximately 20%.

It is relevant to note here that the recent investigation into the high price of hotel food revealed that the price is high because the costs are high. The parallel system, as currently regulated, is driving those costs higher.

5. Hotel floats should be kept in Jamaican dollars and change given in Jamaican dollars.

Dislocation and grief

The parallel market has caused dislocation and grief, and rising costs in every section of the economy. Voices from every sector can be heard making special cases for relief. Obviously the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance cannot keep changing regulations every five minutes in answer to all these importunate pleas, no matter how justified they may be. However, the effects of the present system must be continuously monitored and the objections of responsible people must be continuously evaluated by the relevant Ministers. Is this being done? The plight of the hoteliers suggests otherwise.

In any case, the problems faced by the hoteliers do seem to be a very special case. Because, if it were not for them, we would have precious little foreign exchange to exchange at any rate at all.

GOVERNMENT WALKING TIGHTROPE BETWEEN MONEY SUPPLY, INFLATION

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 20 Mar 83 p 11

[Article by Mark Ricketts]

[Text]

THE GOVERNMENT is clearly in the hot seat at the moment and based on the unfolding of near term events herculean efforts will be needed to keep the lid on things or at least to keep things on an even keel.

The biggest problem the government faces at present is the negative implications arising from our current liquidity crisis. The government borrowing requirements leave it very little room to lower the 40% reserve requirements imposed on the commercial banks. But the banks at present are operating in the mid-thirties and to attain the 40% requirement would require a severe pull back in loan commitment by the commercial banks.

This would likely lead to a massive contraction of the economy, especially in light of the fact that the identifiable strength sectors, including tourism, agriculture and real estate and construction are big project undertakings and are capital starved and hungry. Any pull-back in loans now would certainly thwart the recovery expectations of the government.

To try and avoid such negative implications arising from rather limiting options banks have been increasing rates on deposits. The hope here is that a more attractive interest rate structure will induce individuals to save more thus permitting a growth in deposits commensurate with the overall strength in loan demand. But so far the rise in

interest rates has not been having the desired effect and furthermore the banks have to use scarce dollars in their attempt to formalize the foreign exchange market.

In a fix

With this scenario it appears inevitable that the government will have to increase money supply growth much faster than was initially expected. But even here the government is in a fix. On its attempt to restrain inflation the government had kept a tight lid on money supply and the money stock during its first two years in office but in the last five months or so it has opened the spigot much wider. Thus further sharp increases in money supply with commensurate growth in production will not only breach IMF stipulations but will likely result in the economy being pregnant with the seeds of its own inflation.

And the dilemma in all this is that demand-pull inflation arising from rapid growth in the money supply would be exacerbated by a general push in prices originating from the cost side. On top of all this the inflationary flames would be fanned by high levels of expectation and by the dislocation that is attendant in the initial stage of any programme of structural readjustment.

It's clearly catch-22 with not even the street phrase of six-of-one, half-a-dozen-of-the-other being relevant.

Compounding the problem even further is our present woes with IMF as well as the strength of the legitimate financial demands being made by the various groups of economic agents. To fund the request made by junior doctors, nurses, teachers, civil servants so as

to ensure salary levels commensurate with overall price increases would force an already high deficit government back to the wall.

Uphill battle?

To fund this higher deficit government will either have to undertake higher levels of foreign borrowing, or borrow more from the non-bank sector or raise taxes or print more money. Foreign borrowing for recurrent expenditure is definitely not on, especially when we realize that our levels of past borrowing have already committed us to utilizing nearly 50% of our export earnings for debt repayment.

Printing more money is not in itself a despicable undertaking as some argue, but this can only be justified by increases in production. But even here we appear to be fighting an uphill battle. While the political directorate has been noncably silent on CARICOM's response to our parallel market and quota system it is evident that several of our manufacturers are being hit hard.

Drug companies and perfume manufacturers have told me about cancellation of orders from Barbados and Trinidad. And no doubt our chemical suppliers, furniture manufacturers and transport and equipment producers who have done very well in the free trade area in the last year will soon be griping. On this point we must realize that the 85% increase in export performance of our chemical suppliers last year is largely attributable to the regional market.

Discrimination

While some might pooh pooh CARICOM as being a relatively small market area, the critical nature of the market tells more than the numbers reveal. For several of our manufacturers survival and growth depend on penetration of the much wider regional market.

While Trinidad hasn't played its hands as openly as Barbados has done when it floated its dollar only against the Jamaican currency it is evident that discrimination against Jamaican goods will be the order of the day. Since we are now running a surplus with that market I believe it is imperative that our political leaders and policy makers attempt a quick resolution of the issue.

As the governor of the Central Bank in Barbados says Jamaica cannot continue to take these unilateral actions and adopt policies whether they be quotas or preferential exchange rate pricing that are clearly inimical to the spirit of CARICOM.

More importantly with the tight-rope that we have to walk we have to get production up much more sharply than we are doing at present. This is the only way we can justify the sharp increases in money supply that economic conditions at present make inevitable. Who says its easy wearing the crown.

BELGIAN LOAN FINANCES JPS PURCHASE OF TRANSFORMERS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 83 p 2

[Text]

THE JAMAICA Public Service Company Limited is to purchase some US\$1-million worth of transformers from Pauwels, a Belgian transformer and shipbuilding company.

According to a J.I.S. release, the transformers are to be bought with a US\$1-million soft loan from Belgium to Jamaica.

The Commercial Attache in the Belgian Embassy, Mr. Phillippe Boets, told the Minister of Public Utilities and Transport, Hon. Pearnel Charles, on Tuesday during a courtesy call, that his Government would be willing to consider further assistance to Jamaica in areas of energy,

transport, communication and public utilities.

These were areas in which Belgium had a proven track record, Mr. Boets said.

He urged Mr. Charles to consider establishing a multi-purpose transformer workshop and mobile repair shops for JPSCo.

These, he said, would enhance the maintenance capabilities of the company, as well as provide training opportunities for its personnel.

Mr. Charles expressed interest in the setting up of such a workshop and assured the envoy that he would hold talks with the JPS on the matter.

He also expressed gratitude for the offer of assistance and the interest which Belgium had

displayed in the development of Jamaica.

Mr. Boets then said that he was glad the first soft loan had been put in place and noted that the other part of the loan was proposed to be used by another Belgian company to improve the runway and approach lighting for the Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Utilities, the Hon. E. K. Powell; the President of Pauwels, Mr. Vic Pauwels; Mr. Lascelles Francis of the Ministry and Mr. Keith Tennant, the company's representative in Jamaica, were also present.

CSO: 3298/456

HOUSE APPROVES \$56-MILLION LOW-COST HOUSING PROGRAM

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 83 pp 1, 17

[Excerpts]

A U.S.\$56 million low-cost housing programme was announced in Parliament on Thursday as the House of Representatives voted approval of a loan guarantee for a scheme to benefit squatters among other categories.

The programme costing U.S.\$56 million, of which the Jamaican Government is to put up 73 per cent, and the remaining 27 per cent from Paine Webber Real Estate Securities Incorporated of New York, is to be undertaken by the Government and co-ordinated by Estate Development Company which replaced the Sites and Service Programme formerly administered by the Ministry of Housing under the PNP administration.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Rt. Hon. Hugh Shearer, announced the programme in the House on Thursday evening as he sought the House's approval for a government guarantee of a loan U.S. \$15 million from Paine Webber Real Estate Securities Incorporated to the Jamaica Mortgage Bank under the USAID Guarantee Loan Programme through section 2 of the Approved Organizations and Authorities Loans (Government Guarantee) Act.

The remaining U.S.\$41 million is to be put up by the Jamaican Government bringing the total to U.S.\$56 million.

THE PROGRAMME involves (a) Squatter Settlement of 5,000 plots on various sites throughout the island with a loan allocation of U.S.\$4.2 million and a Government input of U.S.\$12.6 million, the average price for these units will be \$6,000; (b) New Schemes which will consist of 1,600 "core units" to be located in Kingston and St. Andrew and other urban centres will get a loan allocation of U.S.\$5.4 million and a Government allocation of U.S.\$17.1 million; (c) Owner-occupier build-on-own-land will have a loan allocation of U.S.\$3.1 million and a government loan of U.S.\$9.2 million for the construction of 1,100 owner-occupier core units and (d) House Improvement/Mortgage Loan for 1,250 homes will receive a loan allocation of U.S.\$2.2 million and a contribution of U.S.\$2.2 million from the National Housing Trust.

The maturity of the loan is 30 years with the principal being paid in 30 equal semi-annual instalments commencing at the end of the 15th year. The interest on the loan is initially on a variable basis with two weekly adjustments.

CSO: 3298/466

CANE FARMERS OBJECT TO GOVERNMENT-PLANNED FACTORY CLOSING

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Mar 83 p 3

[Excerpts]

St. Thomas

MORANT BAY

The annual general meeting of the Serge Island Cane Farmers Association of West St. Thomas which took place at John Barrett Community Centre in Seaford on Wednesday, February 23, broke-up in disorder half-way through the proceeding.

The cane farmers later met and took a unanimous decision to request a meeting with Agriculture Minister, Dr. Percival Broderick to discuss with them and St. Thomas MPs Errol Anderson and Parnell Charles the future of the Duckenfield Sugar Factory in east St. Thomas.

The west St. Thomas cane farmers' request for a meeting with the Agriculture Minister came in the wake of a recent utterance by him of the likely closure of Duckenfield Sugar Factory and the diversification of the cane land into banana cultivation.

The disgruntled farmers say this is a "life and death" issue where the future of their family are concerned because the previous government closed Serge Island sugar factory 1974 and threw over 800 people out of employment, the phasing out of Duckenfield in favour of banana would not only kill the survivors of Serge Island, but turn the entire parish of St. Thomas and east Port-

land into a "ghost town," the farmers say.

West St. Thomas farmers said they had made extreme sacrifice to keep Serge Island Sugar Factory in operation by producing enough cane with good quality sucrose contents because when the factory closed 1974 the yield was six and one-half ton of cane to produce one-ton of sugar.

They suggested that Dr. Broderick set up an inquiry to find out why Duckenfield used an average of twenty-seven gallons of oil to produce one-ton of sugar last year.

CSO: 3298/466

BRIEFS

HONG KONG BUSINESS TIES—Miami, March 17—A Jamaica-Hong Kong-Business Commission, composed of members of the Private Sector in both countries, is to be set up to further the cause of increased trade and investment between Jamaica and Hong Kong. This was announced by the Minister of Industry and Commerce, the Hon. Douglas Faz, at a joint Jamaica-Hong Kong business meeting here. Formation of the commission was suggested by Sir Y. K. Kan, leader of the Hong Kong delegation now visiting Miami, to Mr. Vaz, who is leading a delegation of Jamaican businessmen to Miami. Sir Y. K. Kan felt that such a move would be a logical follow-up and expansion of the Trade Correspondent relationship which has already been created between the two countries. Work of the commission will be assisted by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in Hong Kong and by the Jamaica National Export Corporation and Jamaica National Investment Promotion in Jamaica. A further development in Jamaica-Hong Kong relations is the opening by the Hong Kong Trade Development Council (of which Sir Y. K. Kan is chairman) of an office in Miami, which will offer closer association with Jamaica through the office of the Jamaican Trade Commission in Miami. Establishment of Business Commissions with friendly countries is part of the present Jamaican strategy to develop international trade and investment. Similar commissions already exist with the United States, Great Britain, West Germany and Norway. [Article by Calvin Bowen] [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Mar 83 p 1]

WATER CRISIS—The water situation in the Corporate Area has now reached crisis proportions with total storage of water in the City at an all time low of 221 million gallons, compared to 726 million gallons, this time last year, the Minister of Public Utilities, the Hon. Pearnel Charles, said yesterday. Of the 221 million gallons in storage only about 50 per cent is usable and at present rate of withdrawal from the reservoirs this amount would be exhausted in 26 days, he said in a statement. "With the situation as critical as it is, the Commission is intensifying its surveillance programme to ensure compliance with the regulations governing the use of water," Mr. Charles said. Storage at the Hermitage Dam, which has a capacity of 394 million gallons, has fallen to 108 million gallons and at the Mona Reservoir, which has a capacity of 825 million gallons, storage is at 113 million gallons. Response and cooperation from the public in the use of the limited amount of water available had been disappointing, Mr. Charles said, and over 100 people had already been warned for prosecution for watering gardens and lawns, washing cars and for other illicit uses of water. The rains

which which fell two weeks ago were a welcome relief but not enough to affect storage levels significantly. "In fact, with the present situation, it now seems likely that unless there is significant rainfall by the end of the month, the National Water Commission will be forced to introduce more stringent water restrictions," Mr. Charles said. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 17 Mar 83 pp 1, 13]

CSO: 3298/466

BORDER 'PROVOCATIONS' TIED TO GUATEMALAN ANTIREBEL AIMS

Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 4,5 Feb 83

[Gonzalez Martinez Corbala commentary: "Meaning of the Attacks on the Refugees"]

[Part I: 4 Feb 83 p 3]

[Text] The waters of the Grijalva and Usumacinta Rivers flow down from the Guatemalan mountains into Mexican territory in the same way as the peasants, mostly Indians, also come down, harassed by the agents of repressive forces of the Guatemalan government, the regular army or the various paramilitary groups, who then cross our borders in open violation of our national sovereignty to violently attack and assassinate those peasants, as we have learned from recent reports in this newspaper.

Many questions immediately arise from these events, so absurd that one resists believing them: How is it possible for the government of a neighboring country, with which we endeavor to maintain diplomatic relations in spite of earlier events still fresh in our memory, to act in so primitive a manner?

Is it possible that the present Guatemalan government is a continuation of the insane acts of Ydigoras, simply attempting to ignore the most elementary elements of international law in a suicidal attempt to replace them by unheard-of--at least on this continent--barbarism and brutality, as a basis for dealing with neighboring countries?

Is it simply a monstrous act of irresponsibility, trusting that Mexico, on the other hand, will never deviate from its foreign policy line based on immutable principles which are derived from respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as from its pacifist convictions?

Unfortunately, the explanation is more complex than the replies which could be given to these questions which grew out of our first reactions to the facts. But it is not the fact that they are complicated that makes them incomprehensible. One need only delve a little into the political and social reality of our neighbor to explain the mystery. Later we will conclude there was no mystery but rather concealment of the obvious, as frequently happens.

On the Guatemalan side of the border are the Departments of El Quiche, Huehuetenango San Marcos and Peten, of mountainous topography, inhabited mainly by Indians, who are the migrant workers who come down with their families 3 months of each year for agricultural work in coffee and sugarcane. They work under subhuman conditions and iniquitous exploitation and then return to the mountains, to subsistence farming of corn and chili until they are persecuted and expelled to our country by the repressive government agencies.

These Indians are members of the 22 ethnic groups which make up 58 percent of the Guatemalan population which at the present time is about 7.5 million inhabitants. Now it just happens that the People's Guerrilla Army (EPG); the Armed Peoples Revolutionary Bloc (ORPA); and the Rebel Armed Forces (FAR) are operating in these departments. Day by day, little by little, they are gaining greater control in their areas.

It is evident that the presence of guerrillas in Guatemala is primarily the direct result of the internal social problems resulting from the poverty and exploitation of the Indian population, and of the repression of the people, not just by the army, but by ultrarightist paramilitary groups similar to Franco's Falange, such as the MLN [National Liberation Movement] which was the political basis for American intervention in 1954 which brought Castillo Armas to power. It is an organization very closely linked to the captains of private enterprise, coffee growers, agricultural exporters and big businessmen.

The MNL maintains its main force in Oriente and Mario Sandoval Alarcon, its leader, likes to maintain close relations with the governments of Paraguay and Chile. This organization feeds on the anti-Mexican spirit among the above mentioned sectors which support it. They attempt to blame us for all their problems and to create artificial conflicts to distract public attention from the intensification of their antiguerrilla struggle.

The increasingly serious and frequent provocations at our border are for the purpose of forcing us to militarize that zone so as to justify an equivalent movement of troops on the Guatemalan side which would "explain" the need for an arms buildup, establishing a basis for their requests for more military aid from the United States due to the existence of an alleged international conflict without having to admit that it is the growing strength of the guerrillas that requires the arms buildup to counteract them.

[Part II: 5 Feb 83 p 3]

[Text] The Guatemalan troop concentration and arms buildup in the mountains of the border area in the Quiche, Huehuetnnango, San Marcos and Peten Departments could be attributed to military equilibrium in the region, provided that Mexico allowed itself to be enticed into militarizing our territory due to the recent grotesque provocations. Beside providing them with a justification in the eyes of international public opinion--especially in the eyes of those whom they hope will provide them larger quantities of arms--this would provide them the means for making a major offensive against

the EGP [People's Guerrilla Army], ORPA [Armed Peoples Revolutionary Bloc] and FAR [Rebel Armed Forces] guerrilla groups who have strong forces in that region.

Besides, it is obvious that the implementation of such an arms buildup would in fact upset the precarious equilibrium which is uncertainly maintained on the one hand with Mexico, and on the other with El Salvador and Nicaragua, not to mention the other Central American countries.

Without a doubt it can be argued that this military dike would provide Mexico "security" against subversive infiltration. We are not seeking this since we do not need the Guatemalan government to solve our real national security problems (this time not in quotation marks). We know very well that we must preserve and consolidate domestic peace by solving our own social problems ourselves. This is what the neighboring militaristic regime and its partners inside and outside the country should also do, or at least attempt to do.

In fact, the Gen Rios Montt government has distant partners since both its radio and telecommunications networks were planned and are kept in operation by Israel. The chiefs of its military intelligence were also trained in that country and are now being advised how to perfect their operations within Guatemala itself.

Some of the most important generals have been trained in Israel, including Laugerud, Spigler, Maldonado and former Chief of Police and former Minister of Interior Donaldo Alvares Ruiz.

Not all Guatemalan generals are gorillas. Some of them have divergent solutions for the national economy and social policy, with leanings toward militarized reforms which favor liberalization of the current repressive policy as a means of overcoming the guerrillas. However, judging from recent events, one may anticipate a tendency toward a hardening of their policy as a whole.

In other words, it appears that in the slogan of the former preacher of Christian Democracy Rios Montt--"beans and rifles"--there will actually be more rifles than beans in the short run for the suffering Guatemalan people.

On the international plane, the sickly anticommunism of the Guatemalan Government surely is encouraged by the Argentine military advisors and the advice of its fine friend Pinochet with whom it has close ties. It hardly needs to be said how much pleasure Pinochet, who has set the example for coup d'etat practitioners in both North and South, must derive from the knowledge of the problems his followers are causing us Mexicans. How he must rejoice at the very idea that they might be able to change our foreign policy, which is based on principles which ennoble us and which condemn them forever before the judgment of history as long as these principles remain in effect.

For the present, the best reply is unity among all Mexican political parties represented in Congress--PTI, PAN, PPS, PST and PSUM--speaking out in the permanent commission in support of the end of the arms buildup and the in-depth solution of the internal social problems of each country as well as reaffirming the fundamental principles of Mexican foreign policy. All Mexicans, without exception, are obliged to support this pronouncement and we will do so. Let there be no mistake either in the North or in the South.

EXPATRIATES RETURN HOME FROM CUBA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Feb 83 p 30-A

[Article by Rogelio Hernandez L]

[Text] Two men who 11 days ago returned to Mexico after an 11-year political exile to Cuba stated, "Let not social incomformity due to the crisis tempt anyone to seek solutions other than political ones. Let not difficult situations, such as the present ones, lead the country to lose all the positive things it has gained during many years. May those difficult situations rather make it democratic and nationalistic."

Demostenes Lozano and Antonio Sotelo are now 36 and 45 years old, respectively. They had to go into exile in 1971 because of their ties with the mass organization founded by the then rebel Genaro Vazquez Rojas and, on their return, they find a Mexico with "great positive changes" and an "oxygenated" political climate which they had not previously known.

This reporter interviewed these men who now have masters degrees in history and economics. They said that in the short time they have been back they have observed that "in the real Mexico, there are serious problems, a crisis which is not a matter of chance." But they also said, "There are men in the government and other political forces who are progressive, sincere, honest and concerned about solving the difficult situation positively."

[Question] Have you come back to Mexico to seek socialism and to join immediately a leftist political organization?

Demostenes replied that the conditions of our country can only be corrected by a democratic solution defending national interests. In no country is socialism a matter of will or individuals. Above all, it is the maturation of processes.

ACNR Leaders

The two men returned from Havana on 28 January and on that day they announced that they will engage immediately in open political activity. Some days later in a town in Guerrero State they were elected leaders of the revived National Revolutionary Civil Association [ACNR], which was founded by Genaro Vazquez 10 years ago.

They said that a campaign has begun in that organization attempting to brand them "as destabilizers, subversives and promoters of an armed popular uprising."

They said, "This is false. ACNR believes, as we do, that in Mexico one can engage in politics now that there are reforms that we did not have 11 years ago. All forces should be responsible and mature and should accept as we do that all action should take place within the legal framework of the Constitution."

As to social instability, they said, "In the abstract, it is only natural to think that it has brought on the economic crisis. But we see that there are government and other forces which are very concerned about reaching a solution in the best manner."

"We have seen many changes in Mexico. The overall environment is better. From the press one gathers that there is more room for the opinions and actions of the different political currents than there was in the past."

On their new activity, "We do not discard any means of engaging in responsible and serious politics. One can unite with other leftist parties or groups or can hold talks and even collaborate in some way with government sectors either locally or at the federal level, depending on the specific situation."

9204

CSO: 3348/576

ACHIEVEMENTS OF AGRARIAN REFORM REPORTED

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 11 Feb 83 pp 1, 10

[Article by Emigdio Duarez]

[Text] "It has been said that agrarian reforms in some countries, including El Salvador, are more radical than those in Nicaragua. This truly concerns us because we did not bring about this revolution in order to look like radicals. We designed the agrarian reform in order to make our society strong, in order to make our revolutionary process strong, in order to make our people strong, and in order to seek the happiness and well-being of everyone," said Commander Jaime Wheelock Roman at the closing session of the Second Latin American Congress of Sociology held here in Managua in 1981.

Two and a half years after the enactment of the Agrarian Reform Law by the Government Junta of National Reconstruction and 49 years after the assassination of Augusto C. Sandino, general of free men and father of the people's anti-imperialist revolution, who lived through and brought up the problem of the landless peasant and who began to speak of the cooperative movement in Nicaragua, how has the agrarian reform helped Nicaraguan peasants?

Young MIDINRA [Ministry of Development and the Nicaraguan Institute of Agrarian Reform] experts do not hesitate when asked the question, nor are they afraid to answer it. On the contrary, they admit in all honesty that the problem is extremely complex and that as a result, one cannot see or expect total solutions. Rather, one must look at the quality of progress made.

For example, they ask one to consider Nicaraguan rural areas as they were inherited from the revolution, when the mass of farm workers were thrown onto the country's marginal land or the most rugged areas by the inhuman, cruel socioeconomic system prevailing in Nicaragua until 19 July 1979. Agrarian reform officials remind one how Somozaism-capitalism not only displaced and took land from the peasants, but rather, ordered them, along with all their belongings and children, to go to the most inhospitable and remote mountain areas, without any kind of provisions or equipment.

Now, in contrast, in the little that has been done (it could not be otherwise without the human, technical or economic means and under attack by imperialism, which has declared war on the Sandinist people's revolution), there is a determination, borne out in action, to bring those people, who were displaced and

restricted by Somocism-capitalism, back to the best land so that they can at least plant the seed they now need to survive.

"Better land and closer to civilization, to roads, highways, electricity, and so on," said one of the officials, who added: "Look at the move made by the people who lived on the unspeakable lake shores, just opposite where Sears was here in Managua. On the shores of the lake, they knew nothing but discomfort, mosquitos, stinking water and worse homes. Now, opposite where Sears was, while they do not yet have better homes, they do have electricity nearby, water nearby, paved or cobbled streets, schools and buses, virtually everything closeby."

As one can see, the mere fact of giving them better land is a huge step forward. That was the basis for the Nicaraguan agrarian reform. Cooperatives are now being set up in specific areas: A total of 36 cooperative development zones (ZDC) have been defined in the most productive zones, where there is more pressure for land, better organization and greater potential for granting land.

Cooperatives

Officials explain that according to the National Cooperative Census completed by CIERA (Agrarian Reform Research and Study Center), there are 4,000 cooperatives in the country, of which the "purest, those in production," the CAS (Sandinist Agricultural Cooperatives), are located in the northern, central and southern Pacific zones, while the CCS (Credit and Service Cooperatives) are found in the northern and central regions.

Priority

But that is not all. MIDINRA knows that it cannot take care of all of them, so that it will give priority to 500 out of the existing 4,000, one-eighth of the farm cooperative movement. Naturally, the largest, most consolidated, most advanced are chosen, those that serve as an example and those that are the hardest working.

Of these 500, 60 percent are in the central-northern region and the rest in the Pacific region. However, over 60 percent of those considered for priority are in the Pacific region.

Concerning the national farm cooperative movement, MIDINRA officials recall that the programs of Somocism (BNN [National Bank of Nicaragua] and Invierno) and the private sector (FUNDE [Development Fund]) had only established 22 cooperatives in 1978 and that in the early months of the revolution alone, 2,163 were set up. By the end of 1981, there were 3,820, including 63,359 farm families.

Initially, those organized were the landless, who thus became the spearhead and vanguard of the Nicaraguan peasant movement. The landless ("Juan sin tierra") then founded the CAS, even before the victory in Leon, where they began to be called "the communes. Then the others, those who had little land or marginal land, were established, the credit and service cooperatives (CCS).

Bourgeoisie

Here a very delicate matter came into play: The bourgeoisie had its eye on the new landowners and wanted to use them, pull them along and take them over, so that there was even fear of losing them at one time, one official said. But the FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] rapidly outlined a strategy and promoted the creation of a National Farmers and Livestock Breeders Union (UNAG), which is a well-known leap that prevented the imperialist scheme of trying to elbow in.

The distribution of land thus began, a slow process at first. A year after enactment, the law had only granted 83,000 out of the 234,000 blocks that had been affected by the revolutionary legislation. During the second half of 1982, land grants were speeded up and by the end of last year, 120,000 blocks had been turned over to owners and the goal for 1983 is to grant another 200,000 blocks.

Consistent

The purpose is not to grant land for the sake of granting it, officials explain. It is in order to promote the organization of the peasantry or, as Commander Wheelock says, "in order to form the greatest national consensus of forces to face the pressures, threats and aggression from imperialism."

Regarding the cooperative development zones being promoted and to which priority is given, officials explain that the following have been identified:

Region 1: Limay, Esteli-Condega, La Vigia, San Luis, San Juan de Rio Coco and Jalapa, considered to be the most important. Here, 92,130 blocks will be developed.

Region 2: Chichigalpa, Posoltega, Petaceltepe (the largest, near Jiquilillo), El Sauce, Telica and Quezalguaque. Here the program includes 119,607 blocks.

Region 3, which is Managua, will have only two: San Francisco Libre and the circular suburban strip around the capital. Some 37,530 blocks will be developed here.

Region 4 will have cooperative development zones in Tola, Masaya, Teresa, Granadilla, San Juan del Sur and Moyogalpa, in 105,000 blocks.

In Region 5, the zones will be in La Guinea, Camoapa, Santa Lucia, Santo Domingo and El Rama-El Coral, with 103,446 blocks. In Region 6, where 376,300 blocks will be developed, cooperative development zones will be in Rio Blanco, Dario-Terrabona, San Dionisio, Yali-La Concordia, Pantasma and Wiwili-El Cua.

In the special zones (North Zelaya and South Zelaya), they will be in (Zone 1): Siuna, Tasba Pri, Labu, Alamicamba; and (Zone 2): Kukra Hill, Atlanta-Punta Gorda, Cukra River and Rio Kama (not Rama).

OFFICIAL REPORTS ON AGRICULTURAL MEETING

Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 15 Feb 83 p 12

[Text] Pedro Antonio Blandon, deputy minister of development and the Nicaraguan Institute of Agrarian Reform and general director of the National Food Program (PAN), told newsmen at a press conference of the results of the third meeting of the Regional Agricultural Cooperation Council of Central America, the Dominican Republic and Panama, held from 7 to 11 February in San Salvador, where our country obtained positive results, according to Blandon.

He reported the participation of ministers of industry of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Costa Rica, as well as deputy ministers from the Dominican Republic and Panama, for whom the action being carried out by MIDINRA in Central America was analyzed.

The meeting was divided into two parts: the first, in which the technical committee participated, on 7 and 8 February; and the second, with the participation of ministers, on 9, 10 and 11 February. At this meeting, the 16 proposals which Nicaragua presented at the meeting held last year in San Jose, Costa Rica, were discussed.

At the last meeting, Nicaragua had proposed, as part of these 16 fundamental projects, the establishment of a defense pact of countries like Nicaragua, which have been excluded from any regional aid plans of certain institutions and countries, Blandon said, such as the so-called plan of assistance for the Caribbean region (Reagan Plan), from which Nicaragua is excluded.

At the meeting, the Council's Resolution 10 was approved. The resolution states that historically speaking, countries in the region are those which suffer the crises of capitalist governments, especially under the current circumstances, now that the world economic crisis has an even greater effect because of the drop in international prices for their products, unjust prices that then have repercussions on internal problems, Blandon said. As a response to the resolution, it was decided to adopt a position of solidarity with all members belonging to the Regional Agricultural Cooperation Council of Central America, the Dominican Republic and Panama, so that no country will be excluded from actions of assistance tending to solve their problems. At the meeting, Nicaragua demonstrated that it is not isolated and does not want to break with these countries, Blandon stated.

The MIDINRA official also pointed out that another of the important resolutions for our country was the decision to hold a special meeting in Nicaragua in June to which the ministers of economy of all countries belonging to the Council will be invited.

Another important point made at the meeting was to increase the development of agriculture in order to further trade, as part of the basic list of each of the nations.

Blandon added that there will soon be a meeting in Honduras in which agricultural experts from each country will participate in order to put into practice all resolutions passed at the meeting.

11,464

CSO: 3248/589

NEW PORT TO BE BUILT IN EL BLUFF

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 20 Feb 83 p 5

[Text] El Bluff, Atlantic Coast--The construction of an international port on this small island will lead to better communications with European countries and countries in America that have ports on the Atlantic Coast.

El Bluff, a picturesque tiny island eight kilometers square, surrounded by other islands of great tourist attraction, will welcome the new port, which will cost 1 billion cordobas.

Dr Rafael Cordova Rivas, member of the Government Junta, visited the site where preliminary work is underway. He was accompanied by Moises Hassan, minister of construction, Fernando Guzman, director of the National Financial System, and Rodrigo Cardenal, director of INEC [Nicaraguan Institute of Statistics and Census]. Their purpose was to observe progress on preliminary work underway: earthwork, the installation of maritime towers and the preparation of compound sites where project workers and technicians will be housed.

The visitors were greeted by Commander Lumberto Campbell.

Work began with the movement of earth on the island and the construction of four maritime exploration towers. The towers were to be built by a foreign firm charging \$3 million. In view of the high cost, it was decided to use our own resources, resulting in a substantial savings.

Work is directed by the Ministry of Transport and carried out by workers and technicians from the Ministry of Construction.

El Bluff now has a small port, which can only accommodate boats of up to 1,000 tons, while the over 300-meter-long pier to be built will be able to handle ships of up to 25,000 tons.

Some 116 workers and technicians are employed on the island. They have faced their task with great enthusiasm and there are weekly sessions of criticism and self-criticism at which the most outstanding workers are rewarded with trips to vacation spots with their families.

Project officials believe that the port will turn El Bluff into a citadel because there will initially be 600 new jobs.

In addition, the project will not only increase the port capacity of the Atlantic Coast, but of the country in general.

11,464

CSO: 3248/589

EDUCATIONAL PROBLEMS OF COUNTRY DISCUSSED

Education Minister's Statement

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 11 Feb 83 p 14

[Text] "There is no doubt that the education of a country is the same for the whole nation and must be managed by the state." Such was the statement made yesterday by Carlos Tunnermann, minister of education, as he remarked that the address delivered by the Commander of the Revolution, Tomas Borge, during the observation of the anniversary of the ANDEN [National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers] "has had great impact and has created enormous interest in the MED [Education Ministry], where it is now under study."

He referred to the New Education, saying that "we agree that it is not a question of the academic programs alone, but of an education that is attempting to mold a new man with a new mentality and the key to this change in education is the teacher."

He noted that the educational reform can succeed only if the teachers are committed to that reform and make it a reality. "The teachers are the key factor in education," he stated. Referring to the living conditions of the teachers, he said that "As Commander Borge stated, the public is eager to improve the living conditions of the teachers and for this reason the MED has backed the efforts of the ANDEN in favor of salary increases."

He spoke of the housing shortage affecting the teachers in rural areas. "We share completely this concern of the commander, we regard it as urgent that the teachers who go out into the country live with their families in the communities where they hold classes and that is one of the goals we have set for ourselves, because in this way we benefit not only the teacher, but the community itself as well."

On the same topic, he said that the procedure now under study, to be followed in the construction of these dwellings, is that of the Communal Construction Programs, according to which the communities themselves contribute the land and the labor force. "This task cannot be postponed, especially when we see that there may be as many as some 100,000 children in the rural areas who are not being taught," he added.

But he stressed not only the lack of housing for teachers in the rural areas, but after saying that thought must also be given to housing for city teachers, he specified that the rural zone is where there is a greater shortage of teachers and he recalled that the National Administration and the JGRN [Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction] wish to consider "as soon as possible, the improvement of recognition given to rural teachers, based on the places to which they are assigned."

High Rate of Failure

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 14 Feb 83 p 1

[Text] Dr Joaquin Solis Plura, Rector of the UNAN-Managua [National Autonomous University of Nicaragua] has revealed that 60 percent of the university students are not being promoted to the next year because of the low level of their academic performance.

This impressive report resulted from his participation in the Annual Meeting of Teaching Workers, ATD-ANDEN [National Association of Teaching Workers - National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers] held within the framework of the Ideological Day of Sandino, General of Free Men.

Only 20 percent of the university student body showed overall academic performance that was acceptable, said Solis Plura. To judge from his words, this would mean that 72 million cordobas of the 120 million which the UNAN has as its assigned budget are regrettably being wasted.

"Instructional problems are not solved by increasing the infrastructure of the university, but rather by making the students and professors aware of the need to study so that they may justify the sacrifices made by the people of all social orders to defray the expenses of the university," said Solis Plura.

During the course of the ATD-ANDEN meeting, a report was given on the new collective agreement which establishes six classes of salaries for some 1,000 university professors. Graduate professor will receive between 6,500 and 9,000 cordobas.

"In the ANDEN-MED agreement, there is already a measure to this end, which went into effect last year," he said, and to this he added that the idea is that all teachers who go to the most difficult areas will receive some economic recognition and that this will encourage other teachers to offer their services for rural duty."

After pointing out that in the matter of qualifying teachers politically and pedagogically so that they may master the New Education and in this way be able to contribute to the attainment of the goal of creating the New Man, steps have already been taken with the ANDEN to set up various seminars, he indicated that a bill has already been worked out by the ANDEN and the MED on the law on service grades or on the teaching career.

Enlarging on the service grades legislation, he said that it is a bill that must be studied with the greatest care, "since it is there that are established with precision the ways in which teachers go up in the salary scale, the forms of recognition for years of service, for academic degrees or for studies pursued, as well as the forms of recognition based on the places to which teachers are assigned."

"In addition," he said, "it must be studied with the economic resources of the country in mind," and he recalled that the executive board of the MED already has the bill on its agenda for study. He pointed out that what Commander Borge stated in his address constitutes an enormous challenge for all of us, the MED and the teachers, namely a change in the educational system, which cannot be carried out by decree but through a process, for those countries which simply issued a decree on the matter, failed in their attempt."

Education Budget Reported

Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 15 Feb 83 p 5

[Text] This year the basic and diversified cycle will register 120,000 students, reported Silvio Mora, spokesman for the Education Ministry.

The normal schools are registering 8,868 students for the master's degree and of these at least 1,500 will finish their academic work next year.

The technical and vocational institutions report an enrollment of 5,420 students. An additional 3,000 enrolled in public agricultural schools and 23,193 boys are sharpening their intellectual tools for careers in the commercial field in private and state centers.

The Largest Budget in History

In a compromise meeting to be held by the workers of the MED tomorrow, these numbers will be analyzed in all their magnitude and a report will be made on the large number of schools that will continue to be built, reported Professor Mora.

The budget assigned by the revolutionary government is four times larger than the last one programmed by the Somoza dictatorship (395,000,000) in 1979. The exact amount for the MED this year is 1,177,296,000 cordobas, but an additional 349,000,000 would have to be added, which amount is the university budget.

But the student figures continue: there is an enrollment of 1,798 registered for special education: 1,350 are mentally retarded, 400 with hearing problems and 24 blind.

And the continuation of the National Literacy Crusade shows 125,000 pupils for the first semester of People's Adult Education, more than 133,811 for the second semester; of these it is hoped that 70 percent will advance to the

upper level of the three that go to make up the people's basic educational program.

This year the university finds itself invaded by another record number: almost 40,000 students throughout the country. If you take a calculator or paper and pencil and add, the figure has more than six digits (more than a million), but to this must be added several thousands of students, the children of laborers and farm workers, who are abroad in countries such as Cuba, Bulgaria, Brazil, Spain, Mexico, the USSR, France and many others as well.

Nicaragua has 22,000 teachers and 2,800,000 inhabitants. Something special is happening here: draw your own conclusions.

8089

CSO: 8248/587

POLITICAL LEADERS DISCUSS PAREDES' 'NATIONAL UNITY' GOVERNMENT

PA270104 Panama City CADENA EXITOSA in Spanish 1200 GMT 26 Mar 83

[Panel discussion with guests Guillermo Cochez, vice president of Panama's Christian Democratic Party; Manuel Solis Palma, secretary general of the Nationalists Liberal Republican Movement; Olimpo Saez, president of the Popular Nationalist Party; moderated by Luis Estribi--live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Estribi] The call that is being made by Gen Ruben Dario Paredes, issued through his standard recommendations to the president of the republic, will be the framework for your discussions here today. I will represent the people's curiosity.

We must necessarily begin this program by quoting some of General Paredes' words, when he said: We have spoken twice with the president in the past 2 weeks and on very good terms. The general staff and I told the president that it would be appropriate or healthy, now or in the near future, to evaluate or assess the idea of creating or forming, when he deems it convenient, a government of great national unity, a government that will reflect national agreement.

I don't know why there is so much confusion in this country over Paredes' words. For me at least, this is as clear as water. Paredes has depicted a tragic national situation, regrettable economic, social, educational and other situations. He feels that the time has come for the parties to lay aside their personal interests and, holding the national flag high, to participate in a national unity government. This is where the problem starts: a very experienced politician has told me that this is merely an ambush, that the militarymen want to disqualify the political parties, to derail them and leave them with little or no option in next year's election. This and other issues are what you will discuss here.

Please, Olimpo, go right ahead.

[Saez] When Paredes made his pronouncement, we said that he had merely joined the democratic opposition in its views; that he was merely agreeing with what the Popular Nationalist Party and the group that gave birth to this party pointed out in 1977, when we sent a letter to Torrijos. We deem this appeal timely, because the problems have grown much worse than when we described them to Torrijos in the letter that we sent him in 1977.

We have been constant in our appeals to the country, urging it to seek an agreement in order to get rid of the dictatorship, in order to try to dismantle the dictatorship and to try to get the country back on a democratic course. We have urged this not only on the opposition parties, but on those with the real power: the national guard.

[Solis] It might be argued that General Paredes should not be the one to appeal for national unity, since this is the president's purview. But the president of the republic may or may not suggest it tomorrow. In any event, the political groups' positions on this possibility should be made clear.

Why do we approve of the idea of reaching agreements on the pursuit of democratic activities, agreements that would lead to a search for forms of understanding in an open struggle, free of capitulatory positions by any of the parties, and that would allow the country to return to peace, to the republican system and to the institutionalization of the Panamanian nation? Because we feel that this is absolutely positive and necessary.

It won't be possible, however, unless fundamental changes are made or reasons that merit a completely new situation are introduced. Right now we feel that the situation remains unchanged. We are not talking about a situation of economic and agricultural crisis. We know that these things exist and we would like them solved, but we don't think that we should serve as part of a national unity government or cabinet, because in so doing we would not be contributing sincerely to the solution of these problems. A national unity cabinet is not one that will solve problems. The country's problems cannot be solved by distributing ministries or by ensuring that various groups are represented in the ministries. That doesn't work; it has failed wherever it has been tried. It has failed simply because unity of action is lost; because the chance to manage things coherently is lost. There would be an even greater lack of coordination in the government's efforts to solve our problems.

Just imagine for a moment that you have one party in one of the ministries and another in another ministry. Even the opposition parties would view the various problems differently in their respective ministries. If there is no coordination among the various ministries, if there is no unity in action taken, the effectiveness of that action is lost. We think that this would create greater distrust in the country, because people would see interest only in the distribution of the booty, rather than in finding solutions for the country. If this were the solution, criticism would not matter, because criticism must sometimes be faced, if one feels that one's position is just; but if one feels that there would be criticism, yet one does not believe that the solution of the problem lies there, then some other action should be taken.

[Estribi] We would like to ask Guillermo Cochez, the Christian Democratic representative, whether he doesn't find it somewhat incongruous that those parties that have already engaged in a dialogue or exchange of views with the government, more or less, through the constitutional reform commission, should now suggest or plan to start new talks or a new dialogue; or whether, deep down, the idea of direct participation in administrative responsibilities isn't somewhat incongruous, in that one idea clashes with the other.

[Cochez] I believe, as you say, that we should delve a little deeper into this. Talking or engaging in dialogue, without arrogance, capitulation or conditions, is entirely different than negotiating the government by distributing ministries, embassies, governorships, mayoralties, etc. But before getting into it, let's first see what Paredes said, so that we can see if we have indeed interpreted his words correctly. I believe that his words are somewhat ambivalent and I sincerely think that the appeal lacks the required moral authority. Let's discuss why I think so. In his message, Paredes refers to the country's main problems. I believe that we all agree that the problems described by Paredes as basic are truly the fundamental problems affecting the country. I also believe that the opposition stressed the need to solve them by getting together on solutions even before the government did. Unfortunately, it appears that Paredes hopes to be like the priest who wants to say mass and ring the bells at the same time. I say this because the dramatic situation that he describes as existing in Panama is the very same situation that he has helped to draw and to paint for the past 14 years. The situation exists because he and his group have been in power for the past 14 years. Therefore, it would be very difficult to ask Paredes to try and sketch a new situation or to draft plans for solving the problems that he helped to create. It would be difficult to make a deep change; rather, only cosmetic changes would be effected, which is probably what is truly being sought.

Let's discuss the statement made by Paredes, which you clearly summarized at the outset of this program. Paredes, in his standard recommendations to President De La Espriella, speaks of creating or forming a government that would reflect a national agreement. There are two totally different concepts involved in this: first, to form a government and, second, to ensure that this government reflects national agreement. We believe that we have to reach this national agreement before we form a government. This has begun, to some extent, through constitutional reform committee, on which most of the country's political groups, representing the majority of voters, are represented.

Paredes says that there are many Panamanians who are not registered in parties; were we to count the number of people who have registered in the various parties we would probably arrive at the conclusion that there are more people registered than there are qualified voters. But let's get to the bottom of this matter, since I believe that this is where the main problem lies, and this is something that sometimes acts to detract from the authority of this country's political leaders.

Paredes talks about the politicking that divides the Panamanian family. Who have been the biggest participants in this politicking? It is those who today are buying signatures or giving free liquor--as was the case with the Republican Party in Los Santos--and all of these parties have a common denominator: the present or future support offered the regime that supports Mr Paredes and around which all of these parties are gathering in their effort to continue to enjoy power, or to enjoy it as they did prior to 1968. And where do we find the prototype for this politicking that Paredes talks about today? All we have to do is

check the PRD's list of leaders and we will find that all of the politicians of 1968--the past to which he says there is no reason to return--are all registered in or leading parties that are making waves today in an attempt to make him the president of the republic, leading all of the forces within the so-called process. Thus, we realize that, down deep, Paredes' words lack authenticity. They sound very nice and reflect, as he said, the tragic situation that the Panamanian people are experiencing, but there is a lack of conviction when these words are uttered. In this sense, the Christian Democrats have been very clear and precise since our foundation in 1968, when we presented ourselves as an ideological party that would serve as an alternative to the parties then in existence.

[Cochez continues] So, Lucho, we now have this call for national unity. I think that in order to make a serious analysis of this matter we have to establish the differences in types of political parties in this country. We have the electioneering parties on one hand and the parties with a spirit of service on the other.

The parties are means to orient public opinion, and they cannot be divided solely into opposition and government parties--which is what the regime has tried to do. We have many parties, and we know which ones are in the opposition but we don't know which ones support the government, because the time for compromise has not arrived yet. Therefore, I think we must divide the parties into electioneering parties and parties with a spirit of service.

The electioneering parties pursue the policy of serving their interests. They will indeed negotiate to get a ministry or a share of power because they are interested in nothing else. The fundamental policy of our other parties is to be of service to our fatherland, and we will reach compromises at any time if it means achieving national well-being, because we don't care about our individual well-being. I think we must continue this discussion on the basis of this differentiation. It is in this sense that the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] reiterates what it has already clearly proposed through Dr Arias Calderon, its president, and other spokesmen--i.e., that becoming part of a government is one thing and reaching a national agreement to try to solve the country's basic problems is another.

We are already on the path to solving the political problem through the promulgation or drafting of a new constitution. An electoral code will be drafted later. The social and economic problems also require immediate participation by all politicians and an agreement among all Panamanians in order to search for solutions to such serious social problems as education, corruption, the exodus of the rural population to Panama City and serious economic problems like the agricultural and livestock production, the Panama Canal, the economy and so forth.

So, Lucho, this is the way we look at this call for national unity, which the PDC has been repeatedly making for a long time as a step, as Olimpo said, to pull out the last staves of this dictatorship, which was installed in 1968, and give way to a real democracy which would not only seek freedom for Panamanians but promote social justice.

[Saez] I definitely think that Paredes' statements do not involve last-minute kindness. I think they are the fruit of the bitter reality all of us have experienced. I ask myself, for instance, Lucho, why many of the politicians who are now crying out for democracy and harshly talking against the military dictatorship did not do so 5, 6 or 7 years ago.

For instance, I ask myself why when we students of the law school [of Panama University] and the students of the University of Panama took to the streets to struggle against that vicious, criminal and thieving dictatorship and we were beaten, jailed, persecuted and slandered, they did not go out and struggle to get those students released or to attack the dictatorship because of its outrages? Why didn't they do so under those circumstances, dear listeners of CADENA EXITOSA and my dear friend Estribi?

I think that it was because, based on the reality we were experiencing at that time, they felt that the circumstances were not appropriate to talk or spend a single cent in struggling against the dictatorship.

Why does Paredes agree now with the country's democratization but not do so 6 or 7 years ago? It was because of the same situation in which many politicians are now registering parties. However, they did not actively participate in a political struggle against the dictatorship 6, 7 or 8 years ago.

Paredes is the result of a reality, the way that Torrijos and all of us are a reality in our nation's politics. Why didn't many politicians participate in the election for corregimiento representatives in order to fight the dictatorship from within? And why are they doing so now that the 1984 election is coming? It is because circumstances have changed and because politics is the art of the possible within our own realities.

That is why many of those who remained silent previously are talking now. Why am I saying this? Because what Paredes is doing now is the fruit of these new realities which are now leading to the registration of parties and making many politicians--who were previously inactive because circumstances were different--become active now.

[Saez continues] Paredes finds that the country's circumstances are different now and, accepting this reality--which he has symbolically described as a dark tunnel--he realizes that not only Panamanians but the members of the national guard are passing through this dark tunnel. He, as chief of the national guard, and the national guard itself, want to come out of that tunnel without casualties, the same way that I am sure our political parties want to come out of it unscathed, too. That tunnel will end with the electoral fray of 1984.

That is why I say that this is not a question of last-minute kindness. It is a question of political realities, in which each of us has a place and in which each of us has seen an opportunity to say many things, to confront each other, to say and write many things now, because circumstances have changed--as they have changed for the national guard. I think that this dialogue for which the national guard is calling must take place within this new reality in Panama.

I state over this radio network today that dialogue is not surrender, that dialogue is not betrayal, that dialogue is a civilized conversation to seek solutions of problems. So here we want to have a guerrilla war of microphones against the national guard, when the civilized thing is to talk to see if an agreement can be reached. I don't see any problem if we have sat down with the president of the republic to accept our participation in a commission to revise the constitution in which the government had the majority, I don't see any problem in having the opposition sit down with the government to hold a dialogue on the electoral code, the 1984 elections and the appeal that the national guard has made. Why did the national guard make the appeal? Because it has the real power. That is why it issued the appeal. It has the real power. If one of our parties had the real power, the party would have issued the appeal. But since we do not have that real power, the one that has it, the national guard, has issued the appeal through its leader or commander who is Paredes.

Estribi and dear listeners, I ask myself the following: If Paredes were to convoke a constituent assembly at this time, what would the Panamanians do? Oh, we would not go to a constituent assembly because Paredes was the one who convoked it? Or would we go to a constituent assembly? If tomorrow Paredes were to take Arnulfo Arias by the arm to the presidency, what would the rest of the parties do? Oh, no, we don't accept that because Paredes is the one taking him. Remon also took Arnulfo to the presidency. Those are the political circumstances. That is why I think this is not a case of kindness but of political reality, of political facts. Those of us who do not have the weapons to overthrow the dictatorship must, through the political struggle, through the path of dialogue, understanding, talks and electoral struggle, obtain what we could not obtain at this time through the path of violent actions, which is the way one can overthrow a government or end a dictatorship. I think there has been a dismantling of that dictatorship against which many Panamanians have been fighting in a struggle in which many have fallen. That gradual but firm dismantling has been the result of many struggles, dialogues and documents. I don't see why we should become scandalized about talking and holding a dialogue with those who hold the power if when we leave that dialogue we come out with our heads held high and our pockets empty.

[Saez continues] I think that this is the reality. The PNP accepted the government's rules of the game. All the parties are registered under the dictatorship's law and not under any other law. It was the law that the dictatorship imposed. We participated in the 1980 elections based on the call that the dictatorship made to those elections. We will participate in the 1984 elections based on the call of that same government. We have participated in the constitutional reforms based on the call that this same government made. Therefore, Lucho Estribi and friends of this EXITOSA program, I don't see why we opposition politicians cannot talk with the dictatorship's leaders to dismantle what remains of the dictatorship as we have been gradually doing. If on this occasion the call to a dialogue comes from them, I don't see why we cannot participate to try to dismantle the dictatorship that they established.

[Estribi] Leader Olimpo Saez continues to make his summing up in his second statement.

[Saez] Yes, of course. For this reason, the PNP which has sought better days for the country through the political and electoral struggle and political militancy, believes that it is dutybound in the current circumstances to speak to the people clearly, without demagoguery, lies, deception and without bowing down in the face of historic circumstances that a serious party and politician must face. Lucho and listeners, since we always publicly state and write down what we think, we are not afraid of stating our position to all the friends of CADENA EXITOSA. Just as we have been telling the national guard that they must abandon political power and withdraw to their garrisons, just as we have been telling them this over the microphones and through the letters we have sent to them, we can also tell them to sit down at a table with the same respect but with the firmness of knowing that this is the healthiest thing for this country. If this contributes to speeding up the country's democratization, we are willing to hold a dialogue, to sit down at a table with General Paredes, the general staff, the civilian government and the opposition parties to seek points of agreement that will make possible those democratic elections that in 1984 will permit the Panamanian people to choose their president, legislators, mayors and representatives without the traumas of the electoral struggle that occur in this country.

Lucho Estribi, friends of this panel: all of us know what General Paredes meant when he referred to the dark tunnel of the 1984 elections. Those of us who are a bit older, even though we were very young then, remember 1968. We are all aware of the kind of politics that goes on in this country, and we know that after the elections, the problems of the Panamanian people continue the same. The country continues divided and torn apart down to the last Panamanian. Personal, family and political reputations are not spared. This is going to be repeated in 1984 if in this country we do not achieve an understanding that will allow the Panamanian people to go through the elections without the trauma of the sectarian, revengeful and politicking struggle full of hatred and rancor that usually occurs in this country. This is the kind of struggle we have experienced here. This is the kind of struggle that occurred in 1968. I mention 1968 because there was a confrontation for presidential power, while the elections held since 1972 have been partial struggles where presidential power has not been at stake.

The listeners of this special program should not forget that with this struggle for a dialogue the PNP wants to prevent suffering caused by those sectarian struggles, especially the suffering of our people, who contribute the dead. They are the ones who spill their blood, because the political leaders are usually well protected in their houses and their bank accounts, while the long-suffering people are the ones who confront each other in the fratricidal struggle, in the electoral struggles that have occurred since 1903. There has been no room for greatness or national salvation for those long-suffering people, who have always been cannon fodder, electoral cannon fodder.

[Saez continues] The PNP does not want this for the people. If the PNP can contribute to prevent this from occurring, it will do so even though this might cost us misunderstandings and some companeros may think that this is not the most upright and adequate position to assume in these critical moments for the Panamanian nation. But all the listeners of this special program will remember

these words: If the country is unable to reach a national agreement on the 1984 elections, that dark tunnel will imprison us in that struggle. Remember, Lucho Estribi. I said this on your program. I hope my words will not come true and I hope I am wrong. For this reason the PNP will put all its efforts forward to achieve this dialogue, for this understanding, so that the democratization of the country may come about without violence, without mourning in our homes, without sectarianism. If to avoid this it is necessary to sit and talk with the government, with the national guard, we are willing to do so without putting down any conditions except the ones that will lead us to democracy. This is our viewpoint and our contribution at this historic hour for the Panamanian people, and we hope that Panamanians will interpret it as this. The Panamanian people are the reason for our sacrifice and work. I repeat, the people will remember us and will be our best judge.

[Estribi] Thank you, Olimpo Saez, president of the PNP.

I will never be able to forget a phrase used by Solis Palma, the political mentor of many frontist students at the University of Panama, when we were very surprised at the fact that the patriotic front was going to accept a mayorship, the social security organization and the Education Ministry. The phrase is one I will always remember because I had to admit that it was true. Remember when you said: Look guys, we cannot suffer from political infantilism. The political parties are created to seek power because it is from power that doctrines, ideologies, principles and so forth can be put into effect. You had better get accustomed to the idea that sooner or later we will reach power.

Solis Palma, today I ask you, do you believe that by refusing to share any type of government responsibility Molirena is falling into some kind of political infantilism at a time when such things are no longer allowed?

[Solis Palma] I will answer your question with pleasure; however, before I answer your question, I would like to say that our party very humbly states that it does not want the Panamanian people to become cannon fodder in these political times. That is why we chose the electoral path as the path to follow. I share the idea that beyond the goodness--or otherwise--in Paredes' words, the fact is that we are facing new political truths. We have to view the situation from this new reality, and this is what we are doing. I don't want to go into a lengthy explanation to say that dialogue is correct, that it is indispensable and that it is necessary. I am going to say it in a very simple and clear way. We are willing to hold a dialogue. From my very personal viewpoint, and I believe the majority of the party members feel the same way--we have not met, the political committee has not met to reach a decision, but a decision was reached during talks some time ago, a decision that could change in the face of new realities, but there are no real reasons to change our position--we believe that dialogue in the face of the whole democratization process of the country is advisable. That is why we participated in the constitutional reforms; why we are participating on the electoral code committee, on the different electoral tribunal committees; and why we are willing to hold a dialogue on various aspects. I believe that civilized behavior during the upcoming campaign is essential. Why do we have to become victims of the passions and indecent and

uncivilized behavior we saw in the 1968 elections? Why do we have to attack a person's decency? No, I believe we should do without those things. There has to be an agreement, and all parties should respect this. We cannot say that we will respect this and then--once we have the communications media and the economic and mobilization means--use them to put people down. We all have to respect the honor of a person. We cannot use the political time or the political passion to attack a person's honor. I believe this should be an agreement among civilized people, a people with political values, an agreement that should not even need to be discussed.

[Solis Palma continues] Why do we, and particularly myself, feel that no agreement on our economic and social problems can be achieved through the formation of a government of national unity? As I said a few minutes ago, it is simply because the center of implementation [centro de ejecucion] is lost.

However, any problem or any agreement on economic and social problems has several sides. First of all, there is the question of outlining the problem, of drafting an overall plan that we think should be executed, or some overall planning. Second, there is the process of implementing the plan.

Even if we reached agreement on a national economic, social and political program, we would still have the problem of its implementation, of deciding who will implement it, or how we will implement it. Take the problem of education. This subject involves a question of its concept. An adjustment of the educational process to the current times. This problem cannot be solved overnight. It can't even be set forth over a short period. It has to be deeply analyzed and implemented by stages over a long period because you cannot transform a system in operation overnight, even if you have exactly in mind what you want to do. This is because you cannot dismantle one thing and set up another unless you do so by stages.

In the face of this situation, we don't think that this is the right time to solve this problem. We can indeed reach political agreements to lead us to a solution after analyzing the country's economic and social situation. This would be further on if the country takes a path of agreement, of understanding, and if whoever wins an election is recognized as the winner. After this we can enter a broad process of participation and begin making the analyses required by the country's economic and social life. Then we will have an opportunity to do so.

I do not think that in the 1 1/2 years remaining for achievement of the proposed changes or for holding the 1984 elections that the situation will be so serious that we would not be able to hold off forming a government of national unity. I do think that we can perfectly well reach a political understanding because we have a political year, an absolutely political year ahead--which has to be so and could not be otherwise--during which administrative action or changes in the country's economic and social policies will not be carried out fully but only partially because we have a political year ahead. This is what requires a political understanding, but without participation in the administration.

I don't think this is the right time to do so, and I don't see why Olimpo--whom I believe is not in agreement with [words indistinct]. He proposes a dialogue, and nobody is rejecting dialogue. What we don't agree with is going beyond the agreement and participating in the administration. We don't agree with that. This is the difference in our stands. We are not accepting it, but we will not call anyone wishing to participate a traitor or rogue. Each one proposes what he thinks is appropriate and handles his party the way he thinks he should. And I don't think the issue of sharing power has been raised. At least I have not heard this mentioned thus far.

[Saez] I would like to add that I have not talked here of sharing in government posts. What I have said thus far is that the opposition parties and the national guard should talk and try to reach agreement regarding the country's democratization. And I state that I have not raised the issue of dividing up public posts because this does not depend on the PNP. In the final analysis, this will depend on whatever compromises or agreements are reached by all political parties.

[Cochez] We can say that the bull that felt so powerful for a long time is the national guard. So the national guard, seeing that all of us who have been struggling may reach the conclusion that it is necessary to eliminate it, may say: wait a minute, let us talk among ourselves--the opposition parties being the bullfighter and the process being the bull. You have already chopped off one of my ears, which was the assembly of corregimiento representatives, and the other ear, which was the matter of the social security fund. My legs are already destroyed or battered up because of this matter of the Cofina [National Financial Corporation] and the wrongdoing. So let us try to find a solution to keep you from finishing me off.

I think that no one in this country is interested in finishing off anyone else because, despite our political differences and the political controversies that have divided us for such a long time, we have so many mutual problems that we have to sit down and talk about finding solutions. The PDC does not think it will become contaminated in a dialogue.

I think that we, responsible politicians, have to go down into the arena and fight the bull.

[Cochez continues] I am sure that those who are saying that no dialogue should be held are engaging in dialogue behind the people's back, not like the PDC and most opposition parties are doing. They are holding a dialogue behind their party members' and the people's backs. They are holding talks nobody knows about.

I think the PDC has been honest when it has talked about dialogue and accepted it, because dialogue is a political fact that results from the national situation we are experiencing, as Olimpo said a while ago. We must regard the dialogue that is necessary now as a dialogue to get the country out of the situation in which these people have let it become mired. These are people we have to talk and negotiate with. It is with these people, and nobody else, that we have to look for solutions to the problems. It is foolish to make statements such as:

I won't sit and hold dialogue with the national guard or with Paredes because they represent the country's past, all that we have had here since 1968. We have to accept this; it is a political reality. The national guard has the power in Panama.

On 4 April 1982 I was invited to have breakfast at General Paredes' home. We talked, just like we are talking on this program. At no time can anyone say that I sold myself or that the PDC sold itself. With that dialogue we sought to direct the country toward a more effective and authentic democratization. At no time did that dialogue, or dialogues that came later or before, turn our party into something different than what it has always been. We have been very clear: The compass needle of the dialogue sought by the PDC must be aimed toward a search for the welfare of the people and solution to their problems, very serious problems. We cannot tolerate a dialogue that only accommodates two or three scoundrels in one or two ministries. We cannot seek a dialogue that will not solve the problem of unemployment, that only becomes profit making for one, two or three businesses owned by the persons who lead those recently registered parties. This has been their only goal. The compass needle of the dialogue that the PDC promotes cannot exclude the national guard. We have to make the national guard an entity at the service of the people, a professional entity that will help us face the problems we have. No one wants to destroy them. Perhaps those that want to destroy them are the ones who want to make the armed institution a political party. The national guard must be completely outside the political field. The compass needle of the dialogue proposed by the PDC is aimed at agreeing on the canal problems. The demands that our country will have to make of the United States will be more serious and greater each day. As the year 2000 draws closer the United States will try to take what little--according to some it is much--we achieved with the 1977 treaties. It is in this that we have to agree. We will have to agree if we are going to exploit a new canal, thus preventing the canal--instead of becoming a natural resource for the benefit of the majority--from becoming a personal deal, a very lucrative business for three or four of those closely involved in negotiations at this moment a new canal with the Japanese.

The compass needle of the PDC dialogue, at the time when we are promoting a new constitution as the fastest way to achieve this democratization--we know that there are prettier and more perfect ways to achieve this new constitution, with no mistakes, and one that would contemplate all problems, but this was the fastest way--we feel that although we have not achieved all we desire we are at least on our way toward achieving much and advancing further with this new constitution. Soon this constitution will allow us to have an electoral code that will stop the violence we experienced in 1968. No serious or responsible person in this country wants to see those violent days repeated. Unfortunately, those same men who were involved in all this back in 1968 and who, as Olimpo said, had remained as onlookers until a few months ago when they started forming parties, will be the ones who will join forces and support the person they believe has the best chances of reaching power. Right now those men are already dividing the ministries among themselves. This is what they understand by national unity.

We want free elections. We want the Panamanian people to have a choice--not between opposition and government, that would be far too simple, but to choose freely from among those who will represent a change in the political system we have had since 1968 and those who in one way or another represent the continuation we have had in the country. This is the dialogue that the PDC is proposing. If this is how the regime understands dialogue, then we will be there. The people know how the PDC feels. They know that the PDC has been involved in all the basic problems that have developed in the past 6 or 7 years.

[Cochez continues] We were the first party to speak clearly to the country when General Torrijos died. We told the country: the death of Torrijos signals the end of an era. We were greatly criticized for this; today we are seeing the truth of it. As the days go by and we move further away from that 31 July 1981, we realize that we are living in a new era, and in this new era we all have to participate in the solution of problems, not just political problems, but also social and economic problems that afflict the masses today more than ever.

We, the Christian Democrats, along with the other opposition parties, will be participating in the national dialogue that will promote the solution of the country's basic problems; and if to do this we have to put aside at a given moment positions that we have held firmly, if it is for the people's good, we will do so, because we will not seek to impose our ideas and our theories if the people's well-being is at stake. For the rest, the people will judge us by our actions. In closing, Lucho, I can state that for us the democratization of the country comes first. It can wait no longer.

[Estribi] Gentlemen, thank you very much. I believe that tonight to some extent we are writing a small part of the nation's history, because one may or may not agree with the idea of a dialogue, or with a government of national unity, but what one absolutely cannot do at times like these is evade responsibilities. Those who do this in an irresponsible and antihistorical manner will have to pay a high price before a people who daily wait for an encouraging, hopeful word, one that will bring them redemption and recovery.

I greatly appreciate your participation here tonight, Solis Palma, secretary general of Molirena; Olimpo Saez, president of the PNP, and Guillermo Cochez, vice president of the PDC. Unfortunately, the Liberal Party, the Panamenist Party and the Popular Action Party did not come.

CSO: 3248/626

FORMER WAR MINISTER DEFENDS INTEGRITY, ARMS PURCHASE

PY310221 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 18 Mar 83 p 31

[Text] In answer to what he considers to be a campaign "aimed at harming the prestige of my army career," former War Minister Luis Federico Cisneros Vizquerra, has sent the following letter to this newspaper:

Lima, 17 Mar 1983

Dear Sir:

Many months have passed since the last cabinet crisis and since I stopped being war minister. Since then, certain members of the press have carried out a gradual, subtle and constant campaign against me. But unlike past campaigns, the objective of this one is clearly to harm the prestige of my army career by criticizing my honesty and honor in a vain effort to damage my reputation.

This campaign has three objectives: 1) To show that I left the War Ministry because of institutional pressure. 2) To insinuate that in the process of acquiring army materiel and equipment I reportedly received economic benefits at the expense of the institution, particularly, as a result of an agreement between Argentina's military fabrications directorate and Peru's military industries enterprise. 3) To damage the reputation of my brother, Eng Andriano Cisneros Vizquerra, because of his participation in works for the army in the 1981-82 period, by insinuating that the alleged irregularities that were detected were covered-up by the then minister of war.

I have patiently waited for those who, protected by the freedom of expression guaranteed by our constitution, were slandering me with false charges, to resort to official sources with the purpose of obtaining true information about my activities. But it is obvious that it is not the truth that they are seeking. Therefore, in keeping with my rights as a citizen, I am forced to publicly reject these slanders and I categorically repudiate these despicable insinuations. It is not only my personal prestige that is at stake; but also the prestige of the army and of its high-ranking representatives. Moreover, the objective of this selfish distortion of reality is to deceive the public. It is out of respect for the army and out of my special consideration for the public that I today break the silence I have kept.

Mr Director, it is with full knowledge of the facts and with undisputed evidence, that I reassert the following:

1. It is completely false that the army command had requested the president of the republic to relieve me from the War Ministry. I give as witnesses of this the former army general commander, Maj Gen Francisco Miranda Vargas; and the present army general commander, Maj Gen Carlos Arnaldo Briceno Zevallos, the only authorities who at the proper time could have channeled such a request.
2. It is categorically false that in my capacity as minister of war I acquired any kind of defense materiel or equipment or that I authorized any kind of agreement without it being previously approved by the Army Superior Council or without having discussed the technical, economic, financial, legal or any other requirements; and without the approval of all the pertinent officials.
3. Regarding the agreement for the acquisition of arms from Argentina, I hereby state that "First: it is categorically false that I decided to acquire this materiel overlooking the opinion of the army logistic command, which is in charge of carrying out all the technical tests of the materiel to be purchased, and it is false that I did not inform, through the general commander, the Army Superior Council about the results of the tests; it is also false that I did not obtain the approval of the members of the Army Superior Council which in keeping with the law is made up of the army command. All this is included in the notes of Session No 91 of the Superior Council.

Second: It is not true that the materiel to be bought is not of high quality. Its quality has been proven by the Military Fabrications Directorate over a 40-year period, and particularly in this case the arms were manufactured under a license from the Fabrique Nationale Herstal Inc. of Belgium which gave the Peruvian Army a warranty of quality on the arms manufactured in Argentina.

Third: The acquisition has been contracted at a price per unit which is not only the lowest of the offers made to the Peruvian Army in the 1981-82 period, but does not amount to even 35 percent of the \$1,800 irresponsibly and maliciously claimed by some publications.

Fourth: It is not true that the financing terms agreed on can make illegal gains possible since the operation involves a government-to-government credit, between state enterprises, and is guaranteed by two military institutions. The financing terms call for 95 percent of the CIF [cost insurance and freight] price to be payable in 10 years at 7.5 percent interest per year, with a 2-year grace period, and for the remaining 5 percent to be payable over a 24-month period at 7.5 percent interest. There are exceptional financial terms unprecedented in this country for this type of materiel.

Fifth: All the negotiating steps prior to the signing of a contract subject to future ratification were duly reported to the government which—according to documents on file—approved the position of the War Ministry regarding the advantages that contract provided the country. This contract is in accordance

with all legal provisions and with the specifications of the sector and of INDUMIL [Military Industries of Peru].

4. I am not going to commit an indiscretion with regard to classified documents which have been made public. I only want to say that they have nothing to do with the aforementioned contract which was signed on 10 December 1982. In reality, they are part of another bidding proceeding which took place in late 1981 and which I cancelled, a decision I am proud of, precisely to prevent a fraud against the institution and against the country. The reasons for that cancellation are contained in a Army Superior Council document.

5. It is untrue that the work of Eng Andriano Cisneros Vizquerra, who has worked for the army since 1969, has been questioned by the institution. On the contrary, Engr Andriano Cisneros Vizquerra was the only contractor who completed the work awarded to him within the established deadline to the entire satisfaction of the organizations involved. It is also untrue that an investigation had been conducted into alleged defects in the work he supervised. This can be attested to by the then army general commander, the then army inspector general, and the then chief of the National Development Office which was charged with awarding, controlling, inspecting and receiving the works. It is only appropriate to state that the decision to award the works to the Cisneros and Mesias Company for 239 million soles was made on 13 October 1981 by the then army general commander, at a time when I had not yet been appointed war minister.

Since it is not my intention to create controversy over these questions, and less so with those who are not interested in reporting the truth, this letter is the only public declaration I will make while reserving my right to resort to the court whenever I deem it appropriate to do so.

Begging your indulgence for this necessarily long letter and thanking you for whatever the newspaper wants to do with it, I take this occasion to express my personal appreciation.

Yours truly,

Gen Luis Federico Cisneros Vizquerra, L.E. [expansion unknown] No 664795

CSO: 3348/290

OPPOSITION DAILY VIEWS U.S. LATIN AMERICAN POLICY

PY301817 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 21 Mar 83 p 10

[Editorial: "Hemispheric Relations: Two U.S. Viewpoints"]

[Text] The information service of the U.S. embassies, USIS, has released in Lima the text of Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs Thomas O. Enders' report to the Subcommittee for Western Hemispheric Affairs of the House of Representatives. This report listed the requests for bilateral aid from various nations of the hemisphere which will add up to \$1,104,000,000 for fiscal year 1984. Of this amount \$211 million, are for "military procurement programs, military aid and the international military education and training program." In fact, the above-mentioned report candidly described a sustained effort to supply funds for military activities on the continent while lamenting the proliferation of either current or potential military conflicts. In Peru's specific case (the country is scheduled to receive some \$56 million worth of economic aid to "support the expansion of the private sector and the development of agriculture") the objective of the aid is to "improve our military aid ties with democratic Peru and to help it diversify its sources of military supplies."

However, timely financing of military affairs is not the only concern of the assistant secretary: Perhaps the most remarkable part of the report is what he calls "a democratic initiative." This is a complement to the democracy program which President Reagan recently launched. This initiative establishes a "regional institute for democracy which will allow us to cooperate with political parties and democratic governments for the development of leadership qualities and of the ties among the democratic leaders of this generation and the next one." This active interest in political parties is the other side of the U.S. Latin American policy it is impossible to glean from Enders' report what—in view of the disagreement over the Malvinas and the current economic relations between the two ends of the continent--the bases for an initiative of this type are, especially taking into consideration that the Reagan administration has not moved a single finger to help democracy in this continent. All this of course, applies only if the United States hopes that this regional institute will be something more than a civilian counterpart of other training centers which the United States keeps in Latin America.

Somewhat more thoughtful than the Republican Party, a group of intellectuals and businessmen closely linked to the Democratic Party held, a few days ago, a meeting of prominent figures from all over America to discuss some of the bases for an agreement between the United States and Latin America, an agreement which Assistant Secretary Enders takes for granted in his report. Perhaps due to the diversity of the guests or the broadness of the spectrum of leanings which they stood for (U.S. citizens like Sol Linowitz, David Rockefeller, Elliott Richardson or Abraham Lowenthal and Latin Americans like Javier Silva Ruete, Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Enrique Iglesias and Pedro Pablo Kuczynski) the results were suitably general.

Above and beyond an agreement on the virtues of cooperation, several other points in common were found: egalitarianism in international relations is a must if harmony is to prevail among nations; the final solutions to military conflicts can be found in economic progress and political dialogue; the traditional angle from which Inter-American relations are viewed must be changed; Inter-American institutions have obvious limitations and the governments have to modify these institutions.

It is truly interesting to point out the difference between the viewpoints of the government party and those that become evident in the dialogue which the U.S. opposition is holding with personalities from the rest of the continent.

CSO: 3348/290

BRIEFS

TERRORISTS DIE IN AYACUCHO—Six Shining Path terrorists are reported dead in clashes with the civil guard in Ayacucho Department. No civil guard casualties were reported during the clashes, which occurred in the localities of (Tiquigua) and Hballa. [Text] [PY301805 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Mar 83]

NAVY COMMISSIONS NEW SUBMARINE—The navy has commissioned the submarine BAP "Chipana," which was built in the FRG. The submarine is the third of a group of four that the Peruvian Government ordered from FRG shipyards. [Text] [PY301429 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 19 Mar 83 p A-1]

COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED—Peru and Uruguay have signed a basic agreement for technical cooperation, a cultural exchange agreement and three judicial cooperation agreements. [Text] [PY301429 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 24 Mar 83 p A-4]

CSO: 3348/289

OPPOSITION PARTIES STEP UP ANTIGOVERNMENT CAMPAIGN

ONR TV Broadcast

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 4 Mar 83 p 3

[Text]

IN ITS first political broadcast on television for 1983, the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) highlighted areas of mismanagement, recession, unemployment and corruption as the hurdles in the future of the country.

Mr Clive Pantin, first vice-Chairman of the ONR, reiterated last night that difficult times were ahead and the country did not have necessary leadership to counteract the problems.

According to Mr. Pantin, the impact of recession has suddenly become clear. Thousands are being retrenched by both the Government and the private sector and thousands more are to lose their jobs.

"The ONR warned that difficult times were ahead and that the country did not possess the necessary leadership to counteract this. For that we were labelled prophets of doom and gloom. But mark my word, the worst is yet to come."

The effects of recession come in the wake of the biggest scandal to

rock Trinidad and Tobago, the Sam P Wallace admission of having paid \$3.6m to a former PNM Cabinet Minister.

The scandal is just the tip of the iceberg and the public is aware that accusations have been made against other top Government Ministers both at home and abroad.

REJECTION

Mr Pantin said the ONR was astonished by the Attorney General's rejection of a call for a commission of enquiry.

He said the ONR would like to hear the Director of Public Prosecutions state in public whether it is true that he is free to do as he pleases without any interference from any Cabinet Minister or other persons.

"Indeed, recent newspaper reports indicate that a certain person was offered the job of DPP even though there was no vacancy."

The ONR Vice-Chairman asked: "Do you think that if you had committed a similar offence, they would have allowed you to sell your

house and go live in Panama?"

He reiterated the party's call to the Prime Minister to set up immediately an independent commission of enquiry into all accusations of bribes and kick backs.

"It is only when these iniquitous acts have been fully investigated and settled that this country will be able to return to a high sense of morality and hold its head high on the international scene."

He told the audience that the millions paid out in bribes and millions hidden by clever cover-up might have been used to provide jobs for the unemployed.

Mr Pantin said Government would embark on a number of projects such as road resurfacing, pavement building, garbage collection, street lighting among other things as a gimmick for the upcoming local government election.

The Central Government had emasculated the local government bodies. Nearly every week, he said, one read in the papers of petty bickering in the City Council. So bad it was that a few weeks ago, the Council failed to bid a statutory meeting. That had never happened before he said.

Blast at Chambers Over Scandal

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY GUARDIAN in English 6 Mar 83 p 1

[Text]

THE Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) has called on Prime Minister George Chambers to address the nation on the John O'Halloran bribery scandal.

In an open letter, the ONR, through its political leader, Mr. Karl Hudson-Phillips, stressed: "The country is entitled to hear from the Prime Minister about all of these (the ONR outlined a number of issues) and other matters. It is time that you addressed the nation and clear, if this is possible, the name of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago which is the government of all citizens, good and bad."

Former Government Minister John O'Halloran has been named as the government official who received a \$3.6 million bribe from the Sam P. Wallace construction company to get a contract in the building of the now abandoned Caroni Racing Complex.

Pointing out that Mr. Chambers had a reputation for being a man of few words, Mr. Hudson-Phillips emphasised: "The time has come for you, as Prime Minister of a country, to let the citizens of this country know where you stand."

Mr. O'Halloran has been "travelling up and down the world on a Trinidad and Tobago diplomatic passport even though he has long ceased to be a Minister of the Government," he said.

Such a passport, Mr. Hudson-Phillips said, gave the holder immunity from arrest in all foreign countries in which he is on a mission with the auspices of the government.

The letter continued: "The population of this country is convinced that particular individual is not the only person whose corrupt practices have been covered up by the Government of this country. Who are the other persons involved?"

Referring to the statement made by Attorney General Russell Martineau that he had signed an agreement with the US Justice Department relative to the matter, the ONR asked: Under the agreement, how many other scandals are being kept away from the ears of the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago? Does this agreement cover the known corruption in the DC-9 and the Lockheed 10-11 deals?

Alliance Stand on Local Reforms

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 7 Mar 83 p 3

[Text]

NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF Trinidad and Tobago, described as "the party of parties", presented its manifestor for the upcoming Local Government elections at the party's convention at Lions Civic Centre, San Fernando, by Senator Brinsley Samaroo.

One aspect of the manifesto highlighted the case for Local Government reform, and said the alliance stood firmly on that platform.

Plans include widening of the areas of responsibility entrusted to Local Government authorities; increasing the authority of Local Government bodies, commensurate with such enhanced responsibilities; revision and rationalisation of the Local Government boundaries, so as to enhance the

community basis of each authority and reduce the numbers of citizens served by each authority.

The Alliance wants to institute new financial arrangements, to ensure Local Government authorities a far greater degree of autonomy and independence from Central Government domination, and develop new methods of collaboration between Local Government authorities and the Central Government.

Call by the Alliance for the comprehensive reform was based on a profound analysis of the cultural, social, political and psychological dynamics which underlay the behaviour of the population, it was stated.

Alliance Convention Speeches

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 Mar 83 p 3

[Text]

THE NATIONAL Alliance of Trinidad and Tobago has declared electoral peace with all those in opposition who wish it. The declaration was made on Sunday by Opposition Leader Basdeo Panday while addressing the Local Government Convention of the Alliance at the Lions Civic Centre, San Fernando.

Mr. Panday said: "As a consequence, we have de-

cided that we shall make every effort to confront the PNM on a one to one basis."

According to Mr. Panday the Alliance is committed to any electoral arrangement or accommodation that would ensure that the Alliance has a candidate against the PNM in the forthcoming elections, the other parties will not put up

a third candidate in the same seat.

"And where the other political party has such a candidate we shall refrain from putting up an Alliance candidate."

He told the convention that they had informal discussion with parties outside the Alliance and felt sure that such an arrangement is highly possible.

"We are prepared to share a common platform on national issues and to work out a common election strategy."

He said that they presented some of their candidates 52, and the rest would be presented when the intention of the other parties become clearer.

Whatever the outcome, "we of the Alliance never abandon our struggle to forge national unity among our peoples in Trinidad and Tobago," he said.

Fourteen candidates were presented to contest seats in Victoria, twelve for Caroni, nine for St. Patrick, seven for St. George East, four for Nariva Mayaro and six for St. Andrew-St. David.

National Alliance of Trinidad and Tobago is the name formalised and under which banner the United Labour Front, Democratic Action Congress and Tapia House Movement will contest the elections.

The Alliance will have one symbol — the equilateral triangle signifying not only equality among the membership but more significantly among the peoples of Trinidad and Tobago.

SINGLE PARTY

Mr. Alloy Lequay, Administrative Secretary of the political organisation told the convention that "the immediate implication of this decision is that we shall contest the local government elections as a single party with a common symbol as distinct from our mutual arrangements for the 1981 general elections."

He said a first draft of the Alliance constitution would in a short while, be submitted to the committee for consideration "but even before a draft goes before the joint executive we intend to consult the membership in a genuine display of true democracy."

Alliance Olive Branch

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 Mar 83 p 16

[Text]

TRINIDAD and Tobago was regarded over the last seven years as a land flowing with milk and honey. That flow has now diminished, according to Mr. A.N.R. Robinson, Chairman of the Tobago House of Assembly and leader of the Democratic Action Congress (DAC) and Mr. Michael Harris, Chairman of the Tapia House Movement.

They were speaking at Sunday's Local Government convention of the National Alliance of Trinidad and Tobago at the Lions Civic Centre, San Fernando.

Mr. Robinson told the packed hall that the "spread of bread" was now being restricted "and will continue to be restricted. There will be less and less to go around."

"How are we going to organise production and output? How are we going to achieve productivity and how are we going to create an economic system which can produce and enable the benefits of that production to be used in the interest of all? he asked.

He said the economic issue was another area on which they would have to focus attention.

Mr. Robinson said there should not have been one man, one woman

or even a child in any school in the Caribbean today who should have any doubts whatever regarding cricket in South Africa.

TOBAGO ISSUE

The Caribbean should have been united on the issue — not a man must go to South Africa.

He said that the fact that there was division on the issue, the South Africans would be using their money to exploit the situation in order to strengthen their own position and their own values.

"The entry of our cricketers in South Africa means the entry of South Africa in Trinidad and Tobago," said the DAC leader.

Mr. Robinson said that the Tobago issue involved the survival of democratic rules and the democratic system.

The PNM, having been defeated in election after election in Tobago, and having been defeated in the Tobago House of Assembly election of 1980 has "abandoned the democratic principles in Tobago," he added.

He warned that with all that was happening in Trinidad, there was no certainty that if the PNM was defeated in an election in Trinidad, that that party would peacefully hand over power.

Mr. Robinson said that the Tobago issue also involved relationship between small islands and larger islands; it also involved inter-relationships between the Eastern Caribbean islands; it involved the right to self determination.

NEED FOR REFORM

Opposition Leader, Rep. Basdeo Panday, told the convention that

the recent motion of the Tobago House of Assembly on the relationship between Trinidad and Tobago, emphasised in a serious way the need for constitutional reform to establish once and for all a just and dignified relationship between the islands.

"One which is especially acceptable to the people of Tobago. Unless we do that as a matter of urgency, we may soon see Tobago cutting itself away from Trinidad."

Mr. Panday said that as far as Trinidad itself was concerned, there was urgent need for local government reforms.

He said that over the 27 years of PNM rule, the Government deliberately and methodically emasculated the local government bodies.

Alliance Local Government Candidates

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Mar 83 p 7

[Text]

SAN FERNANDO:

THE National Alliance on Sunday announced 54 candidates to contest seats in next month's local government elections. The remainder will be announced shortly.

Names announced are as follows:
ST. PATRICK:

Rampersad Mahadeo (Godineau); Basdeo Narine Manmohansingh (Cedros); Emran Ramadhar Singh (Rousillac-La Brea); Alvin Mahabir (San Francique-Batchia); Changoor Subia (Penal-Morne Diable).

Pundit Baldat Seegobin (Apex-Fyzabad); Llewelyn Percival Belgrove (Brighton); Roland Mohammed (Siparia East) Henry Lumpkin (Siparia Central)

VICTORIA:

Pooran Khem Karan (Forres Park-Piparo); Vernon Hosein (Claxton Bay); Leo Thompson (Pointe-a-Pierre); Suresh Seecharan (Hindustan-Tableland); Isaac Beepath (Reform-Cocoyea).

Russel Mohammed (Princes Town-Marabella); Mohammed Haniff (Lengua); Kenneth Paulsingh (Bronte); Premchand Sookoo (Diamond-Debe-Esperance); Edwin Granger (Barrackpore-Moruga); Trevor Joachim (Palmiste) Teekoohar Persad (La Romain-La Fortune-Hermitage); Grantley Prescott (Cedar Hill-Sie Madeleine); Latchman Seecharan (Williamsville-Buen Intento)

CARONI: Gandhi Rohan Persad (Las Lomas-Chin Chin); Lennon Sankarsingh (California-Exchange); Goolchan Seechan (Waterloo-Perseverance); Vishnu Tikasingh (Felicity-Wyma); Hansrat Ali (Charlottesville-Bejukal);

Shariff Ali (Phoenix Park-Claxton Bay); Charles Persad (Freeport-Todds Road); Roodal Radhay (Calcutta-Freeport); Sam Jattan (Longdenville-Enterprise); Baboolal Balkaran (Brasso-Tabaquite) Dennis Singh (Montrose-Emeralda) Howard Maharaj (Chase-Edinburgh)

ST. GEORGE EAST:

Sirju Hardeo (Orange Grove); Andrew O'Neil (Arouca-Lopinot-Piarco) Enal Ragbirsingh (St Augustine); Robert Maxwell Tunapuna; Shah Hosein (Curepe) Cecil Sankar Rampersad (Caura); Haroon Mohammed (Trincity-Macoya).

NARIVA-MAYARO:

Rampersad Chotai (Cocal); Hansraj Soonarsingh (Rio Claro North); Razak Ali (Rio Claro East); Marlon Felmine (Peole); Rambissoon Nagassar (San Pedro).

ST. ANDREW-ST DAVID:

Ramdhani Rannanan (Coal Mine); Owen Rampersad (Guaico Tamana); Austin Vidale (Valencia); Kelvin Thompson (Toco Matelot); Miss Shirley Jones (Sangre Grande-north); Donald Lawrance Sangre Grande South).

TOBAGO LEADER: REVISED FORM OF UNION OR INDEPENDENCE

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 4 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] Mr. A. N. R. Robinson, Chairman of the Tobago House of Assembly, said yesterday that the House is out to obtain either a more acceptable form of union with Trinidad for Tobago or outright independence for Tobago--preferably through the intervention of the Commonwealth Secretariat or the United Nations, if it cannot be negotiated with the Central Government.

In Mr. Robinson's view, the cue for this approach comes from the authority desposited on him by a 10-4 vote of the House of Assembly and a statement from the Leader of Government Business in the House of Representatives, the Hon. Kamaluddin Mohammed.

The House of Assembly, in a debate which started on November 25 and ended on February 24 decided that "whereas the union between the islands of Trinidad and Tobago being a colonial one, was contrary to the will of the people of Tobago, and whereas despite the transition of the colony of Trinidad and Tobago from British colonialism to independence, the island of Tobago continues to be forcefully kept in subjection to the will of the people of Trinidad by neo-colonial policies emanating from that island, and whereas repeated constitutional mandates given to its duly elected representatives by the electorate of Tobago to seek internal self-government for Tobago within the unitary State of Trinidad and Tobago have met with lack of sympathy, indifference and arrogance from the Government of Trinidad, be it resolved that this House of Assembly take all proper and necessary steps to terminate the present unjust union of Tobago with Trinidad and to secure either its replacement with a union based on terms acceptable to the authorised representatives of the people of Tobago or the full independence of Tobago with secure territorial boundaries."

Two Options

Before that, on November 23, 1979, to be exact, Mr. Kamaluddin Mohammed, speaking for the Government, outlined the two options before the House of Representatives in these terms:

"Cabinet has directed the Attorney General to submit a comprehensive analysis of the document. The Government will hold appropriate consultations on the

"two options that now emerge--the (adoption) of the Seemungal proposals or independence for Tobago."

At a Press conference yesterday Mr. Robinson gave the impression that since the Seemungal draft was rejected and the union with Trinidad has proved unsuitable, the Tobago House of Assembly had only the option of seeking independence, as suggested by the Leader of the Trinidad and Tobago House of Representatives.

Mr. Robinson said that the Tobago House of Assembly Act had been "misinterpreted, violated and disregarded" by the Central Government from the inception and now the suit brought to court by the House of Assembly seeking interpretation of the Act would be heard in open court on a date to be fixed.

One result of all the unsatisfactory events, he pointed out, was that for the sum of money being laid out to purchase, maintain and operate the M. V. Tobago and hire the Gelting and the Tiestein "we could pay for four ships and not have one."

CSO: 3298/467

CARONI TO CLOSE FACTORIES; UNION DEMANDS DIVERSIFICATION

488 Firings

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 11 Mar 83 p 1

[Article by Mikey Mahabir]

[Text] State-owned Caroni (1975) Limited is to close down its Woodford Lodge and Reform factories, throwing 488 persons out of jobs.

The company, at a meeting with the All Trinidad Sugar and General Workers Trade Union on Wednesday served notice of its intention to close down the Woodford Lodge factory which has not been in operation for this crop.

The Reform factory will also be closed at the end of the current crop, "but we are monitoring the situation with Reform factory in view of the problems at the Ste Madeleine," a company spokesman said.

"If the problems at Ste. Madeleine continue then we may consider operating Reform again," he said.

At the moment, the company is trying to identify the problems at the Ste. Madeleine factory.

In any event the company will start from next week to inform the workers individually of its intention regarding the Woodford Lodge and Reform factories and their entitlement of severance benefits in accordance with the existing industrial agreement, the spokesman said yesterday.

The company employs about 316 workers--clerical, technical and cultivation, among others at Woodford Lodge, all of whom will be kept on the payroll until the end of this crop, May 28. At Reform, 172 workers are employed.

At the moment Caroni employs about 12,000 sugar workers and that number is expected to decrease by the end of the 1983 crop.

Reason for closing down the two factories, said a company official, is because of the small size of the crop and, further, the other two factories--Breachin Castle and Ste. Madeleine have the capacity to take care of all the cane grown.

Meanwhile canes reaped at Woodford Lodge and Orange Grove is sent to Brechin Castle. When the Reform is closed canes from that area will be sent to Ste. Madeleine.

A few years ago Forres Park factory was closed down, followed by the closing of Government-owned Orange Grove Factory.

Commenting on the proposed closure of the factories, Mr. Basdeo Panday, president general of the All Trinidad Sugar and General Workers Trade Union, said that the Parliament of this country agreed that there would not be retrenchment of sugar workers. Instead, the workers would be redeployed in a diversified industry.

He said Government had failed to diversify and accused the Government of "a breach of faith."

Mr. Panday said that at the last general elections he warned sugar workers that if the PNM got back into power they would move to "destroy the sugar industry and the sugar workers." He said "that warning is now coming to pass."

Diversification Plans

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 11 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] Three areas have been identified by State-owned Caroni (1975) Limited in which the company intends to diversify.

They include livestock which takes in dairy and beef, cattle, tree crops, which include citrus, coffee, some forest crops, and food production.

Mr. Lyle Donawa, Agriculture, Manager, Food Production, said: "Starting with livestock, the company has a 500 acre farm at Mon Jalou with roughly 80 milking cows.

"We want to bring Mon Jalou up to 200 milkers for a production of roughly 1,000 litres of milk a day."

Mr Donawa said they feel that the country can do with a lot of more fresh milk sales in the supermarket. "We have already explored this possibility, and at present certain of the supermarkets are selling our fresh milk."

Mr Donawa said it would need the use of a refrigerated van, since they wanted to deliver in bulk to the supermarkets. "We hope that in about two years we would have brought Mon Jalou up to a 200 milking herd, which would enable us to make the kind of deliveries we want.

When we achieve this about 800 litres a day would go into fresh milk, the remainder would go directly to Nestle," he stated. He said that the bulls that come out of the dairy system would be fattened and sold as beef and they have been working closely with the sugar cane feed centre on that.

MINISTER CONTINUES GOODWILL VISITS TO LOCAL JURISDICTIONS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 4 Mar 83 p 6

[Text]

IN A CONTINUING series of goodwill visits to county councils, Minister of Local Government and Community Development Dr Cuthbert Joseph will meet members of the Caroni County Council on Tuesday morning.

The meeting will be held at the minister's request and it is aimed at "obtaining first-hand operations and finding out how far the Council has been successful in solving the many infrastructural problems which have affected the people in rural area," according to an official of the council.

He noted that despite rumours to the contrary that the minister's visit was "another political move," it was hoped that several meaningful decisions would result from the meeting.

Meanwhile, United Labour Front councillors are not happy with the visit. "We feel that nothing tangible would result," said Councillor Sam Jattan, representative for Longdenville-Montrose.

"All what the Minister was coming to hear are incorporated in the several memoranda which have been presented to the late Prime Minister Dr Eric Williams in his meet-the-people tour, to Prime Minister George Chambers when he visited Caroni last year.

"They can also read the minutes of this council to find out the numerous requests we have been making on behalf of the people of this county," Councillor Jattan said.

Councillor Rohan Gandhi Persad, representative for Warrenville-Esmeralda, also felt that Dr Joseph's visit will bring no tangible results.

He said that the minister should elevate the role of Local Government.

Some PNM councillors have indicated their intention to show the minister that all is not well in the county.

Former PNM chairman, Pundit Krishna Maharaj, who served for two terms, charged that he would be taking up several problems of neglect in his electoral area.

"I intend to tell the minister that certain officials in this administration are not giving me their co-operation."

Pundit Maharaj, who is likely to contest the Felicite-Guaymare area in next month's Local Government elections, noted that "when these officers fail to act they are frustrating not only the will of the representative, but they are also denying tax-payers their rightful rights and privileges."

Councillor Mano Beharry, representative for Chickland-Freeport, said he intended to let the minister of the "sad state of recreational facilities, bad agricultural roads and bridges in my area."

"The completion of maintenance and development works which started since last year must be completed on the Caparo Recreation Ground because the Village Council is staging its annual sports meeting shortly," he said.

Councillor Ramjohn Ali, representative for Claxton Bay, also wants "speedier action on scavenging, road-building and recreational

DELEGATE TO NONALIGNED SUMMIT HITS INDUSTRIALIZED NATIONS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 17 Mar 83 p 16

[Text]

THE TRINIDAD and Tobago representative to the Non-Aligned Movement's recent summit conference in New Delhi, Mr Errol Mahabir, called for the movement to act in the interest of the people of the world at a level of existence commensurate with human dignity.

In his speech at the plenary session, Mr Mahabir, Minister of Labour, Social Security and Co-operatives, spoke of the gloomy economic world picture today and noted that the world's absolute poor would number more than 800 million by the turn of the century.

In his half-hour address, the leader of the Trinidad and Tobago delegation pointed to the misplaced priorities of the industrialised countries.

He noted that some of these countries had cut their aid to developing countries by half while the global appropriations for armaments now totalled more than US\$650 billion annually.

Mr. Mahabir said crippling debt burdens now faced many non-aligned members and they were being forced to seek postponement of their debt obligations. At the same time, the International Monetary Fund had assured that its resources would be able to lubricate the world economy.

The Minister also spoke of protectionist policy and declining commodity prices. He said a top priority of the Trinidad and Tobago Government was the dismantling of protectionist barriers to trade in agriculture and manufactured goods.

REAL PRICES

Minister Mahabir said other areas of economic priority for the Government included the stabilisation of real prices of commodities at an acceptable level and the ratification of the common fund agreement; the reforming of the monetary system to satisfy the need for liquidity in the world; the enlarging of the capability of the development finance institutions to meet the needs of developing countries; the availability of loans for developing countries at reasonable rates of interest; the establishment of a special issue of special drawing rights with allocations related to the needs of developing countries and implementing the arrangements negotiated under the Law of the Sea conference.

The Minister called on the conference to adopt new approaches to international economic relations.

On political issues, Mr Mahabir told the conference that the Trinidad and Tobago foreign policy is the belief in non-intervention and non-influence in the internal relations of States.

He said by the same token Trinidad and Tobago respected the rights of nations to choose the paths for their political, social and economic development.

He also pledged support for the peoples of the world trying to liberate themselves from colonialism and racism, making particular reference to the Namibian struggle against the racist Pretoria regime.

The Minister told the conference that his country had severed all political, trade, commercial, sporting and cultural links with South Africa because of its apartheid policy and called on other members of the Non-Aligned Movement to work towards the complete elimination of "this despicable practice," of a apartheid.

Mr. Mahabir also called for the Caribbean to remain a zone of peace and said that his country would continue to insist that extra-regional powers must not seek to introduce their rivalries, conflicts and tensions in the region.

UNION LOSES RIGHT TO REPRESENT COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 16 Mar 83 p 1

[Text] The Communication Workers Union, led by Secretary-General Lyle Townsend, has been fined \$3,000 and its certificate of recognition to represent workers of the Holiday Inn in Port-of-Spain has been cancelled by the Industrial Court.

The court's judgment, delivered last Friday, concludes the bitter industrial dispute between the company and the union which began in July 1982 when negotiations for a new industrial agreement broke down.

Approximately 200 employees were dismissed by Holiday Inn on September 10, after they walked off their jobs on a strike which the Court subsequently ruled was illegal. The hotel later re-employed about 35 workers who had been on vacation during the strike or who they felt had been intimidated in some form.

Because of the damage it had suffered during the period of industrial unrest, the company sought an order of the Court to have the union's certificate of recognition cancelled and a penalty by fine imposed according to the Industrial Relations Act.

In deciding for the company, the Court, comprising Mr. K. S. Sealey, Vice President, Mr. G. C. Awang and Mr. J. Grannum, observed:

"From the evidence before us we are satisfied that the union acted in complete disregard for the consequences of its action not in conformity with the Act--action which was aggravated by the unruly conduct of these workers under the leadership of the moving figure of its secretary general. We cannot too strongly condemn this kind of conduct."

Mr. Townsend described the judgment as "harsh and oppressive." He said the union's lawyers were examining the legal implications.

The CUW leader disclosed that the union no longer had any paying members on the hotel's staff. Those who were re-employed had resigned from the union and those who were recruited after the strike did not join the union. The union cannot re-apply for certification at the hotel for another five years.

BRIEFS

BWIA PERSONNEL CUTBACKS—Twenty-two pilots and a number of managers are among 190 airline workers listed to lose their jobs at BWIA this year as the national carrier attempts to save \$11 million in personnel expenditure. The airline's corporate management, yesterday advanced a five-point plan on how it hopes to carry out the job cutting exercise to the three unions representing the 2,000-plus workers at BWIA. The redundancy programme, implemented quietly a year ago has reduced the number of workers from a high of 2,290 to 2,138 at the end of last month. At a Press conference held at Piarco yesterday, Managing Director of BWIA, Mr Ian Bertrand, said the airline was aiming to level off at 1,985 workers before next year. The 150 pilots are to be cut down to 128 with those flying the Avros taking the brunt of the redundancy. He said while the national carrier was embarking on a redundancy programme BWIA was not cutting back on its service, operations or routes. Managing Director Bertrand said BWIA would be working closely with the unions over the next two weeks to utilise the five-point plan. He identified the proposals as non-filling of budgeted/vacant positions; voluntary redundancy; early retirement; and attrition and involuntary redundancy. The exercise will strike at all levels of workers and about 40 senior workers, including managers, are to go. Mr. Bertrand forecasts an overall net operating loss of \$47 million this year, excluding another \$15 million for the Avros which are to be sold when the Crown Point runway is repaired to accommodate the DC-9s. [Excerpts] [Article by Ed Wynn Brant] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 8 Mar 83 p 1]

CSO: 3298/468

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH VENEZUELA

PY282330 Montevideo El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 24 Mar 83

[Text] Mobile No 3 is right now at the Foreign Ministry where Foreign Minister Carlos Alberto Maeso has made a statement to Radio El Espectador and Telemundo 12 regarding the situation of Uruguayan-Venezuelan diplomatic relations.

[Begin recording] [In progress] [Maeso answer] These alleged statements since our diplomatic relations with Venezuela are permanently under study. As for the president's eventual participation in the summit to be held in Caracas in July, we must note that this is an issue that must be analyzed within the overall framework of the meeting and once all the details are known. Moreover, it must be noted that this is a very particular meeting since it is being held in a country with which Uruguay has no diplomatic relations.

[Question] Sir, is the importance of a presidential summit meeting above and beyond any bilateral problems that Uruguay and Venezuela may have?

[Answer] I would say that in order to define the meaning and the importance of a presidential summit meeting we must first clearly establish its objectives and the results that are expected.

It is well known that President Alvarez was the first Latin American president to see the need to hold a presidential summit meeting, but it should, of course, be preceded by a series of preparatory meetings to establish a specific agenda so that the results to be achieved would be in keeping with the objectives and the expectations of a presidential meeting, particularly in view of the critical economic situation that all Latin American countries and all countries of the world are experiencing.

However, the objective of the meeting which is reportedly—we still lack specific details about it—being planned in Caracas, is completely different. The objective of this meeting is to honor Simon Bolivar on the 200th anniversary of his birth. This is in itself an important event since it is recognition of one of the most important leaders of the Americas. But, of course, these are two different meetings having completely different objectives. I am not saying that one is more important than the other, but I must note that one meeting has no relation with the other.

[Question] Sir, Uruguay and Venezuela maintain commercial relations. What is needed to achieve the normalization of diplomatic relations?

[Answer] Well, as you have noted there are relations at the commercial level. However, I would not say that there is a rapprochement at the commercial level since this would presuppose the existence of certain isolated business deals and the truth is that what we have is the continuation of the same bilateral trade that existed before the severance of bilateral relations. Moreover, we have relations at the consular level, that is, Uruguay has a consular office in Venezuela, and Venezuela has a consular office in Uruguay. There are many procedures that may lead to an eventual resumption of bilateral relations, but I cannot mention any specific one.

[Question] What is Uruguay's position in this regard?

[Answer] As I have mentioned, Uruguay's position is to permanently study the resumption of diplomatic relations with Venezuela.

[Question] Concerning rumors that have been spread and that have reportedly originated at the Foreign Ministry, is the Foreign Ministry investigating these rumors in order to take proper measures to avoid this situation in the future?

[Answer] Yes, of course. We believe that the Foreign Ministry should always issue serious and responsible information through proper channels. Any direct or indirect information that may distort our foreign policy is not good for anybody. Therefore, we have undertaken an investigation and we trust that it will yield positive results. [end recording]

The Uruguayan foreign minister noted that he will travel to Buenos Aires at the end of next week to join the Uruguayan delegation attending the meeting of the Group of 77.

The other members of this delegation left this morning for Buenos Aires. Moreover, Carlos Maeso noted that they continue to work with the British Mission in Uruguay to establish proper measures for the transport of relatives of British victims to the Malvinas Islands. As is known, these persons are to arrive here by plane and will then leave for the Malvinas aboard a ship.

CSO: 3348/295

AMBASSADOR TO ARGENTINA NOTES IMPORTANCE OF GROUP OF 77

PY301225 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2000 GMT 29 Mar 83

[Undated interview with Walter Ravenna, Uruguayan Ambassador to Argentina, place not given--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Mr ambassador what is Uruguay's position in this 5th meeting of the Group of 77 now being held in Buenos Aires?

[Answer] Uruguay believes that this meeting of the Group of 77 is very important since all member countries of this group--that is 125 countries--are experiencing similar problems. Like the whole third world, Uruguay is experiencing serious problems as a result of present terms of trade.

Uruguay is attending this meeting of the Group of 77--and attended the meetings held in Cartagena, Colombia, last month--because we believe that the only way to achieve a change in the international economic order is through the actions of this Group of 77, which the great industrial and developed powers should listen to.

[Question] This is in regard to the establishment of a new international economic order in which countries of the third world will not only have a voice but also decision-making capacity.

[Answer] Yes, indeed, they should play an active part. Moreover, the great powers should understand that all the members of the developing world must be integrated. The countries of the developing world are making a tremendous effort. Among the developing countries are dozens of nations which gained their independence only a few decades ago and they are striving to achieve the well-being of their people.

[Question] Before, you said you wanted to make an announcement. Would you make this announcement at this time?

[Answer] It is an announcement of great interest to Argentina and the Argentine people. About 15 days ago, the Argentine Volunteers of the Fatherland Association [Asociacion de Voluntarios de la Patria] submitted a note to the Uruguayan Embassy requesting the good offices of Uruguay to help gain

permission for the relatives of those Argentine soldiers killed in the Malvinas war to visit the islands to pay their respects to the dead.

Through its Foreign Ministry and in constant contact with the Argentine Foreign Ministry, Uruguay has carried out intense diplomatic activity with the United Kingdom so that through the International Red Cross, the relatives of Argentine soldiers killed in the Malvinas would be allowed to pay their respects to their sons.

Fortunately, we have been successful and details are being implemented through the Uruguayan Foreign Ministry, which is in contact with the Argentine Foreign Ministry.

CSO: 3348/295

CDU LEADER INTERVIEWED IN MANAGUA

PA231255 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Mar 83

[Text] Today, we offer an interview by our special correspondent in Managua, Nicaragua, with Juan Raul Ferreira, president of the Uruguayan Democratic Convergence, who refers to the Uruguayan people's struggle against the perpetuating plans of that country's military dictatorship.

[Begin recording] [Ferreira] First of all I would like to point out that the participation of democratic forces in the recent internal elections--which were a phase of the political timetable--in no way should be interpreted as a support for that timetable. On the contrary, our political intention was to participate in these elections in order to destroy the timetable, and I believe that for the second time we were successful in destroying the armed forces political timetable, same as we did during the 1980 plebiscite. Now, the armed forces are unsuccessfully trying to recover what's left of this schedule, when once again the people have very clearly said "no." This means that, at the present time, nothing can be based on the proposals in this timetable.

I think that it is important to mention that in the past few years, the Uruguayan Democratic Forces, ODU, have been successful in preventing the consolidation of the political plans of the military junta. On two consecutive occasions, our forces have managed to destroy the armed forces schedule.

However, we now want to enter another stage, since we cannot continue forever disrupting the timetable without destroying the dictatorship, which is really our objective. So, the time has come when we will no longer mention these schedules, already discarded by our people, and when popular forces will propose their own timetable.

I think this will be our task for the next few months and weeks: to design specific democratizing political alternatives with an ample political consensus of all forces, inside and outside the CDU. The broader the consensus, the better. However, first of all people must recover the political initiative. The next political proposal that the Uruguayan people will either approve or disapprove should come from the opposition and not from the military regime. [end recording]

Regarding CDU participation in drafting of a new Uruguayan constitution, Juan Raul Ferreira said:

[Begin recording] Well, a few minutes ago, a journalist asked me what we would negotiate in relation to the Uruguayan constitution. Our answer was that the only thing we can negotiate on the constitution is that it should be respected. We feel that it is senseless to sit down and negotiate the text of a constitution with those who have systematically ignored the text of the constitution under which our government should rule our country. We agree that legal changes are necessary to interpret the changes that have occurred in our country in the past 10 years in the social, economic and political fields. However, we will not discuss this with the current military government.

The only thing we are willing to discuss is a change in government, a transfer of power. Once a democratic government is reestablished, we believe that all political forces should participate in drafting a new constitution that best conforms with the present political situation. In any case, we repeat that this is not a subject to be discussed with the present military government. The only thing we can discuss with the present military government, whom the people have asked to leave, is the way, time, place and mechanism for their withdrawal.

Moreover, when the military government talks about discussions of a new constitution, what it really means is that it wants to negotiate the institutionalization, the legitimization of the armed forces presence in our country's government through a mechanism of a clearly fascist nature, such as the National Security Council.

I want to be categorical here in stressing that the Uruguayan democratic political forces will not negotiate this subject. In any event, the only thing that could happen, if the military government insists on maintaining its position, is that we will arrive at a deadlock in discussions, and then--based on the correlation of forces--we will have to confront the government in a different way. However, we will not accept any legitimization of the continuation in power of those who have been categorically rejected by the Uruguayan people on two consecutive occasions. [end recording]

CSO: 3348/295

END

END OF

FICHE

DATE FILMED

April 20, 1983

ⓑ